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# Pickets in court and coal board urged to seek enforcement of injunction

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Striking miners intensified their secondary picketing of power stations yesterday and 24 were arrested at Blyth, Northumberland, as the National Coal Board came under renewed pressure to institute proceedings for contempt against the National Union of Mineworkers Yorkshire area.

Picketing was, however, much less intensive outside the 38 coal mines still working normally, and there were only 15 arrests in the coalfields where men are still reporting for work.

The Institute of Directors said that it weakened the authority of the High Court to have its orders for enforcing "flying" Yorkshire pickets flagrantly ignored. Failure to enforce the injunction handed down two weeks ago might encourage the spread of secondary action to other industries, Mr Walter Goldsmith, director-general of the institute said.

Private sector employers were becoming increasingly

concerned at the board's inaction, and the behaviour of militant miners was rapidly deteriorating, he told a meeting of businessmen in Brighton.

"It is unfair on the police, battling to maintain law and order in the front line, that those behind the scenes organizing unlawful disruption should be free to continue with impunity."

But Mr Eric Heffer, chairman of the Labour Party, said in a radio interview: "We are getting to a stage in this country where workers want to picket for trade union rights and to protect their jobs and suddenly they have become criminals."

"The police have no right, absolutely no right, to stop people from picketing peacefully. We have deplored violence on the picket lines but we have said that this had been because of the massive police presence - they have contributed to the atmosphere and to the violence that has taken place."

The police yesterday arrested 24 pickets for obstruction at the gates of Blyth power station, including five "flying" pickets from Scotland and a further five from the Midlands.

The arrested men appeared before magistrates in Ashington charged variously with obstructing the police or behaviour likely to cause a breach of the peace. They were released on bail to appear again on April 30.

Three coal merchants applied yesterday to the Court of Session in Edinburgh for an order preventing Scottish union leaders from "instructing or encouraging" "flying" pickets after an incident in which 200 pickets massed outside premises at Avonbridge near Falkirk.

Union officials deny knowledge or responsibility for the picketing. The court was told that the men lay in front of lorries, chained gates, smashed a lorry windscreen, and blocked the road with logs. Judgment is expected today.

## £50m spent on oil for power stations

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

The Central Electricity Generating Board (CEGB) has spent £50m on heavy fuel oil on the Rotterdam spot market to preserve its coal stocks.

Power for the national grid is now flowing at higher rates from the board's five large oil-fired stations at a cost of half to two-thirds more than power generated by coal.

The Government is being asked to compensate the electricity industry financially as output is increased from the stations at Fawley, Pembroke, Isle of Grain and Littlebrook in Kent. All the stations are strategically placed for deliveries by sea or by direct pipeline from refineries, as well as being close to the main electricity consuming areas.

Officially, the CEGB says its coal stocks are still high, with an estimated six months supplies at some stations. But unofficially it admits that the initial stocks of 23.9 million tonnes have been running down quicker than was anticipated when the miners' strike started.

A CEGB spokesman said: "We are burning more oil to

preserve our buffer stocks as long as possible."

A total of 20 of the 95 power stations in the country are now being picketed, but so far the CEGB says there has been no direct effect on output.

Its move into the Rotterdam spotmarket to buy heavy fuel oil - a product in increasingly limited supply as modern refineries convert crude oil into the higher value light fuels - has resulted in the market price of \$175 (£121) a tonne at the start of the month rising to \$185 a tonne yesterday.

The CEGB has contracted to buy half a million tonnes, on the spotmarket in addition to the normal contracts it has with the British companies to supply just under 10 million tonnes a year.

Electricity produced by the oil-fired stations has dropped from a total of 27 per cent of the market in the mid-1970s to only 4 per cent last year.

Any disruption of supplies by coal shortages or picketing miners will also strengthen the case for Britain increasing its cross-channel links with the French nuclear power stations

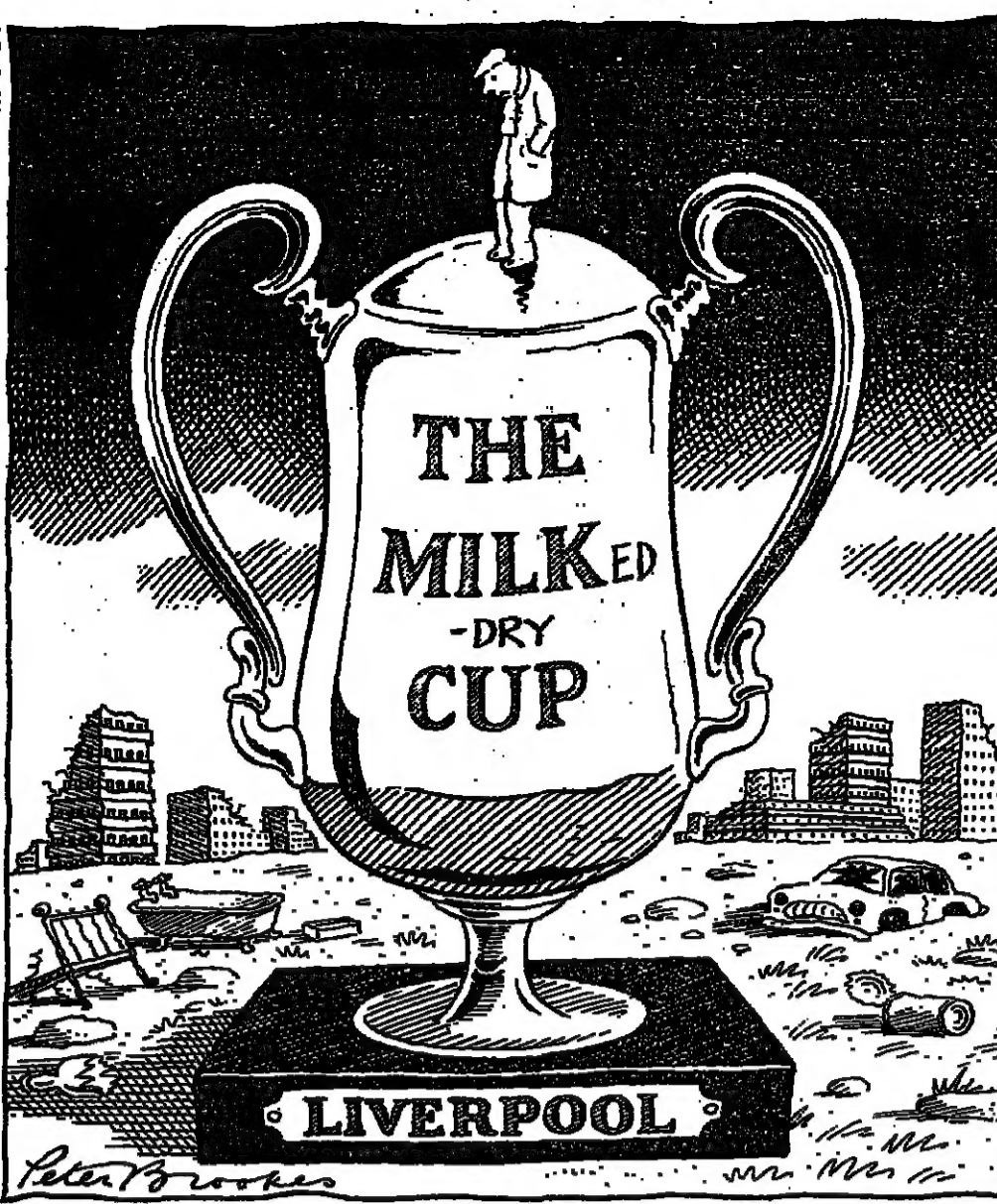
## Councils win promise on costs

The Government has decided to help all local authorities with the extra cost of policing the miners' strike, which is running at an estimated £1m a day. Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment,

In a Commons written reply he said he would exempt from grant penalties the extra spending by councils on policing the pickets. Several councils, led by Nottinghamshire County Council, have protested that their ratepayers will have to foot a large part of the bill, through no fault of their own, and that they risked higher financial penalties for further exceeding the Government's spending targets.

Earlier yesterday, a delegation from Nottinghamshire County Council and four local MPs met Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary. Afterwards Mr Dennis Pettit, leader of Nottingham's Labour-controlled council, said that Nottinghamshire taxpayers would be very grateful to the Government.

A Home Office spokesman said that his department would work out urgently the size of the Government's contribution.



Police Bill: 2

## United lobby makes the change

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The sustained lobbying, remarkable for uniting doctors, lawyers, police officers, and civil libertarians, can take credit for the new shape of the police Bill about to emerge in the Commons.

The second Bill has not exactly suffered a sea change since its first appearance. But its loss with the General Election gave the government and critics time for a second look, and it now appears significantly revised.

The Government took on board much of the previous criticism in the second publication. With a commitment to tape-recording police interviews came a White Paper for an independent prosecution

service - the two chief safeguards critics wanted to balance new police powers.

The definition of a "serious arrestable offence", under attack for being too subjective, was tightened and the offences listed. There was also a new police complaints authority, with power to supervise complaints against police officers.

The changes, however, did not meet all objections, and after its mammoth committee stage the Bill appears once more revised.

There are two major changes: The police, after a hard-fought and costly campaign, win the right to legal representation before discipli-

ary tribunals for serious charges.

Secondly, detention of suspects before charge, allowed to be up to 96 hours in the case of certain serious offences, is to have the safeguard of an extra court review.

Detention beyond 36 hours already must go before magistrates. Now there must be a second review, with both parties present, at a later stage in the detention. The Law Society will press for this to be at 60 hours.

The Government also agreed a scheme of duty solicitors round-the-clock, in police stations, estimated to cost £6m. Concluded

Leading article, page 13

## Cruise run surprises protesters

A cruise missile convoy successfully left its base at Greenham Common, Berkshire, on a training exercise on Wednesday night.

The convoy, this month's second such exercise, was away from Greenham for nearly four hours. It travelled along the M4 motorway and went to the Royal Air Force base at Lyneham, Wiltshire, about ten miles south-west of Swindon and two miles south of the M4.

In times of tension or war, the cruise missiles would be sent from their base to operational sites and the Ministry of Defence has been anxious to practise this. One of the objectives of the women protesters at Greenham Common and others who object to the basing of cruise missiles in Britain has been to prevent those deployments.

The first deployment took place early on Friday, March 9. On both occasions, the protesters have been taken by surprise. As the convoys left the Greenham base shortly after midnight on Wednesday, police swooped down to surround the protesters to prevent them interfering with the movement of the convoys.

By the time the convoy returned to Greenham, about 150 protesters had been alerted and attempts were made to block the entrance.

Although Lyneham was used for this training run, it is extremely unlikely that an RAF operational base would be used as a dispersal point in a crisis. The missiles would almost certainly be sent to remote areas of woodland, as far as possible from areas which might have been identified as likely targets for enemy attack.

## Cross-border raid cover-up alleged

From Richard Ford, Belfast

An RUC police constable accused of murdering a terrorist suspect alleged yesterday that on the night of the killing Special Branch officers were operating across the border in the Republic.

He claimed that senior RUC officers invented a story on the events leading to the shooting of two Irish National Liberation Army volunteers to cover up Special Branch and Army surveillance activities and to protect a police informant.

PC John Robinson, aged 29, wrote the names of the two officers on a piece of paper and handed it to the judge at Belfast Crown Court. He denied murdering Seamus Grew, aged 31, who with a colleague Roderick Carroll, aged 22, was shot dead by police on the outskirts of a housing estate in Armagh City 15 months ago.

He alleged he was given the cover up story, which the Crown did not challenge, only hours after the shooting when he was being debriefed in Gough Barracks, Armagh. The

story was that he was to have been in the vicinity of a village outside Armagh while others set up a road stop and that Mr Grew had gone through it, injuring a police officer. The story was designed, he said, to give the impression that Mr Grew had been chased.

Objections from some officers were overruled and he was taken through the story "probably more than once".

He was asked to explain forensic evidence that three shots fired at Mr Grew had not gone through the car door at a range of about three feet. He said he thought he fired from about 10 feet away and the car door had been open.

He had been shocked and upset when he learned at the debriefing that both men had been unarmed.

"I would never have opened fire if I did not believe my life was in danger. I believed I was dealing with at least two armed terrorists."

Mr Justice MacDermott will give judgment on Monday.

## £1m more for Citizens Advice Bureaux

The National Association of Citizens' Advice Bureaux (NACAB) is to receive an extra £1m in Government funding over the next two years after the Lovelock inquiry into its activities, published last month, cleared it of allegations of political bias.

The extra funding of £500,000 in the coming financial year on top of the £6.6m grant already announced, and a further £500,000 in 1985-86, will be used to improve the services of the bureaux.

The extra funds, announced by Mr Alex Fletcher, Minister for Consumer Affairs, were "wholeheartedly welcomed" by Mrs Elizabeth Filkin, NACAB's director.

## Grand National affected by ticket forgeries

Thousands of racegoers may have bought forged tickets for tomorrow's Grand National at Aintree racecourse, Liverpool. Five hundred people carrying forged tickets were turned back at the gate yesterday on the opening day of the meeting, and the police believe that at least 30,000 forged £25 tickets may have been printed. The price of a county stand ticket at Aintree is £25 for Grand National day, 1967, to the other two days.

Mr Peter Smiles, head of security at the Jockey Club, said a tip-off had been received from a man being interviewed by the Metropolitan Police for selling forged tickets for the Ideal Home Exhibition.

Racing, page 23

## Police station questioning held legal

By Our Legal Affairs Correspondent

The police practice of taking suspects to the police station because questioning there will be more likely to produce a confession is legal, the House of Lords ruled yesterday.

The Law Lords unanimously dismissed an appeal by Mrs Mariam Holgate-Mohammed against the chief constable of Hampshire whom she had unsuccessfully tried to sue for wrongful arrest without warrant.

Lord Diplock said that the officer who arrested Mrs Holgate-Mohammed "thought she would be more likely to confess to what he had reasonable cause to believe to be the truth if he was arrested and taken for

questioning to the police station".

The question was whether he was right, when making the arrest under the power conferred by the Criminal Law Act, 1967, to consider that factor, Lord Diplock said.

There was an inevitable conflict "between the public interest in preserving the liberty of the individual and the public interest in the detection of crime and the bringing to justice of those who commit it", he said.

No one could be arrested without a warrant unless the constable had reasonable cause to suspect him guilty of an arrestable offence and in the

## Man shoots himself in street after killing his family

By Craig Seton

Armed policemen and onlookers watched in horror yesterday as a man who had killed his wife, daughter and mother turned a gun to his head and shot himself dead in the street.

The four dead in the tragedy were named last night as Mr Frank Parry, aged 36, an Oxfordshire County Council librarian, his wife Audrey, their daughter Justine, aged 12, and Mrs Hilary Parry, aged 79.

Mr Parry, who lived with his family in Banbury, Oxfordshire, shot himself by placing a pistol in his mouth yesterday outside his mother's council office home in Longfellow Road, Herringthorpe, Rotherham, south Yorkshire.

Police officers, some of them armed, were closing in and they could do nothing as Mr Parry calmly killed himself. His mother's body had been discovered covered in blood by a wall close to her home and the librarian's wife and daughter were also dead. They had all been shot.

Mr Joseph Harris, aged 75, a neighbour, described what happened: "A young man came out of the bungalow and shot himself while the police watched helplessly. He had gone over to his car and looked around and I suppose he just saw all the police so he just put the gun to his head and blasted the bottom half of his face away. There was just a deathly silence and no one moved."

The death trail apparently began on Wednesday. According to the police, a jogger out running in woods at a local beauty spot near Banbury, between Doncaster and Mexborough about eight miles from yesterday's shooting, had seen a man and young girl out walking and heard a shot. He ran to get the police and later blood was found at the scene.

It is believed that Mr Parry's wife and his daughter may have been killed in the woods and were taken by car to his mother's home where she too was killed.

Inspector John Bennett of South Yorkshire police said the bodies of four people had been found at or near the house in Rotherham, all with gunshot wounds. He said nobody else was being sought by the police.

Last night neighbours in Oxfordshire described the Parry's as the ideal family. The family owned two cars, Mrs Parry had a part-time job.

Mr Ernest Webb, a neighbour, said "they were very close. They did everything as a family and thought the world of Justine, their only child. Their most frequent hobby seemed to be swimming together at Banbury baths."

"They appeared reasonably well off and I should not think they had too many cash troubles. They were from Yorkshire and kept to themselves, although you could always count on them to act as good neighbours."

## Inquiry likely into poly degree standards

By Karen Gold

A government inquiry to investigate standards of degree courses in polytechnics and non-university colleges is likely to be established by the Department of Education and Science in the next two months.

The inquiry would concentrate on standards of teaching and examination in polytechnic and college degrees, and on the royal charter for the Council for National Academic Awards, set up to ensure that polytechnic and college students reach the same standards as university students.

It awards most non-university degrees in Britain. Some college degrees are validated by universities near by and those would also be investigated.

It is intended that the inquiry will be carried out briskly by a high-level committee with an independent chairman, reporting to ministers in no longer than a year and preferably within six months.

Among the subjects the inquiry would consider are how relevant degrees are to industry, standards of degree course entrants, the possibility of some polytechnics validating their

own degrees, and examination procedures, particularly non-traditional ones.

It would be presented as a parallel initiative to the present universities' working group on academic standards, and to the recent announcement by Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, of government moves to standardise public examinations for schoolchildren.

Alternative examination procedures, particularly those that allow students to see their examination "themes" before they take the papers, are at the heart of Sir Keith's continuing dissatisfaction with some CNA-validated degrees, such as the sociology and applied social studies degrees at the Polytechnic of North London.

The inspectorate published a critical report of the degrees last autumn, embarrassing the CNA, which had just praised the department running them and leading Sir Keith to say that he was considering an inquiry into the design, validation, and teaching of all non-university degrees.

## White-collar pay deals average 6%

By David Felton

Labour Correspondent

The Government last night was examining embarrassing evidence that civil servants will need a 6 per cent pay increase this year to close the limit in its guidelines, if their pay is to keep pace with increases in the private sector.

The evidence is in a report compiled by the Office of Manpower Economics that was delivered to the Treasury and trade unions and will form the basis of pay negotiations. Although the report is supposed to "inform but not constrain" negotiations, the unions will argue that the 500,000 white-collar civil servants should not receive less than the private sector's going rate.

Unions and Whitehall officials last night were refusing to release details of the report. However, it is understood that the key figures for the upper and lower quartile of settlements in the private sector are around 7.5 and 5 per cent respectively.

These figures are important because the negotiations will range between the two figures. The Government will wish to keep the increase close to its 3 per cent limit, especially with negotiations for 900,000 health service workers getting under way.

Union officials will discuss the report at a meeting on Tuesday; the Cabinet is also expected to examine it next week.

## Britain sails to protect the Gulf

By Rodney Cowton

Defence Correspondent

Four Royal Navy mine-hunter vessels are sailing to the Mediterranean to be on hand should movement of ships in the Strait of Hormuz be restricted.

About 20 per cent of the non-Communist world's supplies of oil pass through the Strait of Hormuz, which is the only sea route to the Persian Gulf. The British are concerned about the continuing tension between Iran and Iraq and the possible risk to the Strait.

The four mine-hunters were due to take part in a Nato exercise in the Mediterranean in May. However, the Ministry of Defence confirmed yesterday that they were sent there early to be ready available to assist in the Gulf if they are needed.

A ministry spokesman said it had no reason to suppose an attempt to close the Strait of Hormuz was likely at the moment. However, there was concern about continuing tension in the area.

Iran has repeatedly threatened that it would close the Strait if Iraqi military attacks on its oil installations prevented it from exporting oil.

Britain also has two vessels in the Indian Ocean, within easy reach of the Gulf. They are the destroyer HMS Gorgon and the Type 22 frigate HMS Brazen.

Three of the four mine-hunters are of the Ton class. They are HMS Brinton, Gylfarg, and Kirkstall. The fourth is a coastal minesweeper/mine-hunter, HMS Wilton.

President Reagan has committed the United States to ensuring that the Strait of Hormuz remains open to international shipping and an American carrier battle group is based on the USS Midway in the Indian Ocean.

The Strait of Hormuz is about 25 miles wide and is very deep. Western military circles believe that a few mines may be enough to deter merchant shipping from entering the Strait.

Overseas selling prices: Australia \$1.20, Belgium 1.10, Canada 1.10, Denmark 1.10, France 1.10, Germany 1.10, Greece 1.10, Hong Kong 1.10, India 1.10, Italy 1.10, Japan 1.10, Korea 1.10, Malaysia 1.10, Mexico 1.10, Netherlands 1.10, New Zealand 1.10, Norway 1.10, Portugal 1.10, Singapore 1.10, South Africa 1.10, Spain 1.10, Sweden 1.10, Switzerland 1.10, Taiwan 1.10, Thailand 1.10, United Kingdom 1.10, USA 1.10, West Germany 1.10.

## Scargill's pension fund policy

Mr Arthur Scargill yesterday defended his union's policy of "miners' money for Britain" over investment of assets of the 3bn mineworkers' pension fund.

The NUM president told the High Court judge, that he and his fellow union trustees on the fund were acting for reasons they honestly and fairly believed were in the best interests of the fund's beneficiaries and its contributors.

"We will contend that at all times we have exercised our responsibilities as trustees correctly, fairly and in accordance

with the law", he told the judge, Vice-Chancellor Sir Robert Megarry.

Mr Scargill, acting as his own advocate for union nominees on the fund, was outlining his defence to the case brought against them by the National Coal Board's representatives on the fund.

The NCB said has accused Mr Scargill and his co-nominees of acting imprudently and in breach of their duty as trustees in blocking the latest investment strategy for the plan. The two sides are deadlocked over

how best to use the fund's investment assets.

The union side says it wants no further direct investments abroad or in fuel interests which compete with coal.

Investing pension funds in Britain would "help create opportunities for manufacturing industries, generate growth in the economy, generate employment and thereby create an increase demand for British coal", said Mr Scargill.

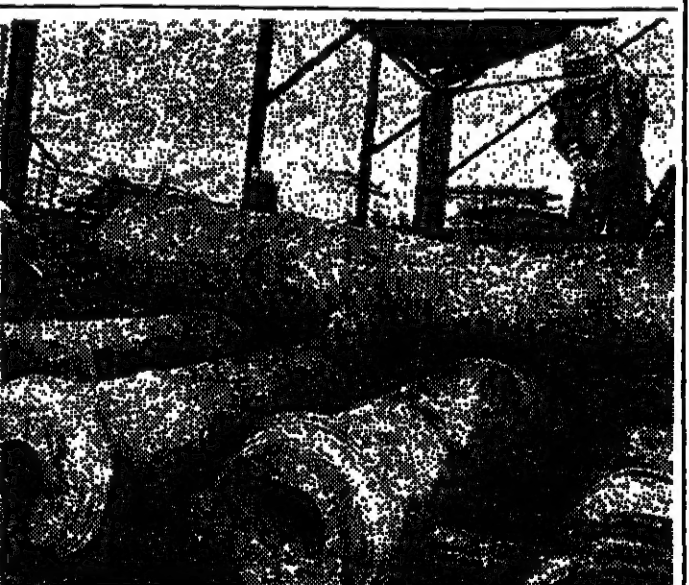
Overseas investment was "a drain on Britain" and British industry. It led to a reduction in demand for British goods

## Docks site 'bollards' are cannon

Cannon to the right of them, cannon to the left of them, and a small fortune just waiting to be dug up by whoever realised the value of the great iron bollards that had stood for years on a 16-acre docks site in Woolwich, south-east London.

It was, finally, Mr Stan Martin, in charge of excavating the site, who managed to crack the problem of recovering the 30 George III pieces, dated about 1760, intact enough to sell to museums and other eager buyers for up to £1,000 each.

But first, he and his partner, not appreciating their worth, had sold two for scrap and had to buy them back again. Now they have 20 awaiting buyers and have already sold a couple to the Tower of London and another pair to the Rotunda



Mr Stan Martin blasting rust from George III cannon. (Photograph: John Manning).

Museum of Artillery at Woolwich. They were bombarded with iron filings at high pressure to clear away the layers of rust, mud and clay.

## Left-wing coup threatens future of Labour pair

A left-wing Labour coup in Wakefield could prevent two Labour MPs from standing again at the next election and swing two other Labour seats to the left, it was said last night (our Political Correspondent writes).

Tribune, the left-wing weekly yesterday reported that left-wing candidates had swept the board in district party elections this week. The report appeared under the headline "At last a people's uprising in Wakefield."

The district party covers four Labour seats and one inside source said last night that there was "political turmoil in the area. The left had been gunning for the right for many years."

It is now thought that the left could take control of all four constituencies and candidates within the next 12 months.

## Sale room

### Satinwood cabinet reaches £140,400

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

A satinwood and marquetry cabinet incorporating oval painted vignettes in the manner of the artist Angelica Kauffman - an example of the fine English cabinet-making of the 1770s - stirred bidders' enthusiasm at Christie's yesterday and eventually sold for £140,400.

Christie's had recognized that this type of Neo-Classical furniture, attributed in this case to the workshops of Ince and Mayhew, was likely to be a moneyspinner.

The auctioneers had not published an estimate but had suggested it was worth £75,000 to £100,000.

The cabinet was bought by Mr Adrian Ward-Pickens, a London dealer in pictures and drawings, who sometimes bids for Mrs Seward Johnson.

Mrs Johnson's fortune is based on Johnson's baby powder and other pharmaceutical products. She buys the grandest furniture and this would not be the first time she has gone for a Kauffman item in the sales room.

The sale of highly important English furniture was bid for with a ferocity which indicates that this field is joining Impressionist pictures as the fashionable thing for the very rich to collect.

Mr Christopher Gibbs, the London dealer, paid £75,600 (estimate £40,000 to £50,000) for a set of 12 Regency mahogany dining chairs of chunky distinction, plastered with lion's masks.

A bigger surprise came with the £62,640 (estimate £10,000 to £15,000) paid for only two

chairs sent for sale by Lord Cholmondeley.

The pair of Queen Anne black and gold lacquer and giltwood chairs have Chinese export lacquer backs and seats. Lord Cholmondeley had originally decided to sell four of them but later preferred to keep the second two.

A sale of musical instruments at Phillips attracted musicians as well as dealers yesterday and the top price was £23,100 (estimate £12,000 to £15,000) paid by M. Matieski, a Dutch musician, for a violin by Joseph Rocca dated 1837.

J. & A. Beare, the London dealers, apparently snapped up the discovery of the sale, paying £12,650 (estimate £1,500 to £2,000) for a viola catalogue simply as "eighteenth-century" but in "excellent" condition.

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# Ombudsman complains he has 'less power than any in the world'

By Robin Young

The British Ombudsman has the least adequate powers of any in the world, the retiring Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration, Sir Cecil Clothier, suggests in his last annual report, published today.

Sir Cecil says that Britain is alone among the 100 countries with national ombudsmen in not allowing the Ombudsman to initiate his own investigations. He also regrets that no government has accepted the strong recommendations of successive select committees that he should be able to investigate personnel and contractual or commercial matters.

This restriction, Sir Cecil says, is peculiar to Britain, and in part only to England, Wales and Scotland since in Northern Ireland the Parliamentary Commissioner is able to examine personnel matters.

"I have felt it a reflection on a parliamentary democracy which prides itself on its considerate attitude towards its citizens that this country alone should impose such a restriction," Sir Cecil writes.

He adds that in five years in office he has also lost faith in the "familiar arguments" which "I have often deployed" that access to the Ombudsman should only be through members of Parliament.

Those dissatisfied with the ultimate response from their MPs, Sir Cecil suggests, should have the right to bring their complaint to the Ombudsman. It would be unlikely to lead to a large increase in acceptable complaints, but would be an

improvement on the present system, Sir Cecil says.

Nearly half the work of his term of office, he calculates, has been concerned with complaints about taxes and social security. In more than half those cases, investigation showed that mistakes had been made.

Sir Cecil blames legal complexities but adds that these are inevitable. "One can only try to have a good system for investigating allegations of error and providing a remedy when the allegations are well-founded."

In 1983 the Parliamentary Commissioner dealt with 809 complaints. The number of full investigations completed was 198, of which 83 were found fully justified and 72 partly justified.

Of 51 complaints against the Department of Health and Social Security which the

Ombudsman investigated in 1983, three led to changes in DHSS practice.

Computer programs were rewritten so that cheques to cover two benefits are now clearly annotated with the dates for which each has been paid.

The DHSS abandoned carbon-copy forms for applications for industrial disablement benefit which had led to delays in making payments.

Among 39 complaints against the Inland Revenue investigated, one led the Revenue to drop a demand for £37,000 PAYE claimed from an employer who had received an assessment for four years' arrears after being told by the tax office that subsistence payments to his workers would not be taxable.

Another investigation in which mishandling was proved led to a remission of just £14.

But in another case the Ombudsman dismissed an accountant's claim that the Revenue had tried to force him into bankruptcy by delaying tax repayments due to his clients.

Five complaints were investigated against the Ministry of Agriculture, but two were dismissed. In one of those a farmer had written more than 100 letters of complaint over ten years, alleging that the Ministry had not done what it should to stop the spread of ragwort on his land.

Sir Cecil concluded that the farmer "had resorted to exaggeration and abuse", dismissed the complaint, and commended the Ministry for the patience it had shown.



Sir Cecil Clothier: 'Hampered by restrictions'.

## Public may vet law complaints

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Consumer demand will force the legal profession to involve laymen in its complaints procedures, according to a leading official of the Law Society of Scotland.

Mr Kenneth Pritchard, its secretary, said that the legal profession should not oppose such changes.

"Probably within the next two years we will have lay members on our complaints committee, not because they can add or do anything but because I believe the consumer movement will demand a lay element to see justice is being done."

Lawyers should not fear the involvement of the public, Mr Pritchard said. They would do an excellent job and bring a desirable measure of objectivity.

"I don't believe for one moment we should resist the introduction of a lay element. I believe it will come."

Under pressure to reform its complaints procedures, the Law Society of England and Wales is considering including laymen after the Glaville Davies affair, which involved a solicitor who was struck off for gross professional misconduct after over-charging a client by £131,000.

The society's own internal report on the affair condemned its handling of the case as a "disgrace".

Under plans to be considered at the society's next council meeting in April, it is proposed that two laymen and two solicitors who are not council members should be brought in to provide an independent element in the investigation of complaints.

It is also suggested that a national scheme be set up, possibly through local law societies, in which solicitors would be specially assigned to interview complainants and advise them.



Met on its mettle: The Princess of Wales yesterday receiving a few handy hints on mob control, the handling of street disputes and self-defence during a display at Peel Centre police training ground, Hendon, north London.

A police recruit, Mr Robert Earl, aged 21, presented the royal guest with a silver-

plated police whistle and chain and a half-size truncheon.

The Princess of Wales's keen interest in the display, which included a mounted police charge, resulted in her visit running behind schedule because of her insistence on speaking to those taking part.

(Photograph: Bill Warhurst).

## House prices rise by 14% a year

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

House prices in Britain are rising at an annual rate of 14 per cent compared with an increase of 12 per cent for last year, the Nationwide Building Society announced yesterday.

Its latest house price index shows that the annual increase remains well ahead of the estimated rise in retail prices (5 per cent) and annual earnings (7 per cent).

In the first quarter of this year, before the effects of the reduction in the mortgage rate and Budget changes could be

felt, house prices in Britain increased on average by 3.5 per cent.

The average price of all properties has risen to £29,690. During the first quarter there was a 1 per cent reduction in prices recorded in Scotland and no change in the northern region of England, while the West Midlands and outer metropolitan area showed an increase of 4 per cent and Greater London and the outer South-east an increase of 5 per cent.

DETACHED HOUSE AVERAGE PRICES, JANUARY - MARCH 1984		
	Modern	Older
Scotland	36,310	34,300
N Ireland	33,620	35,340
North	36,340	35,340
North-West	37,340	40,250
York, Humberside	34,980	38,710
Wales	36,280	32,150
West Midlands	36,250	38,250
East Midlands	33,750	30,970
East Anglia	39,720	44,050
South-West	42,720	43,520
Outer South-East	45,130	52,630
Outer Metropolitan	61,820	64,570
Greater London	68,810	65,510
United Kingdom	42,000	44,760

\* Insufficient sample

## 'Gay Jesus' hint in film condemned

Leading churchmen and religious historians condemned a new television series to be shown on Channel 4 next month which implies that Jesus could have been a homosexual. They claim the three-part series, called *Jesus - The Evidence*, and made by London Weekend Television, is distorted and unreliable.

The series also asks questions such as: did Jesus exist? Did the miracles ever happen and could the healing miracles be explained by hypnosis? Did Jesus rise from the dead? and did Matthew, Mark, Luke and John really write the gospels?

The three hour-long programmes will go out on Sundays from April 8, but already they are causing a furore in church circles. So far, more than 40 leading theologians and church leaders have signed a joint statement strongly regretting the imbalance in the LWT series.

The series' production team said yesterday that there would be a wide-ranging televised debate when the series ended so that protesters could put their case and points of view.

## Magazine marks a century

By Alan Hamilton

The toast yesterday in the South Bank office block that houses the IPC Magazine empire was the chase, the turf, and the road. *Horse and Hound* magazine, the weekly Bible of all who take their sport in the saddle, was celebrating its centenary.

*Horse and Hound* was founded in 1884 as "a magazine of agriculture and sport", with a 2d cover price.

Now at 80p, and with a 75,000 circulation, it still claims to be Britain's only weekly covering the entire sporting spectrum of the horse.

The anniversary was marked by a celebratory dinner last night attended by Princess Anne and Captain Mark Phillips.

The editor, Mr Michael Clayton, a former BBC reporter, whose relaxation is hunting, takes a detached view of royal participation in equestrian events.

"We are a serious newspaper," he said. "If Princess Anne falls off a horse, or Prince Philip overturns while carriage-driving, we will report it as a matter of fact."

He added: "We have every reason for optimism. The appeal of the horse as a means of getting out into the countryside, away from towns which are becoming steadily less attractive to live in, can only increase."

## 'Nasties' evidence in doubt

The survey that claimed that nearly half of children aged seven to sixteen had seen an horrific video film has been questioned by evidence which shows that children do not know the difference between television programmes and films.

Two psychologists from Aston University were so concerned about the research produced by Dr Clifford Hill, of Oxford Polytechnic, that they took his questionnaire into schools - but changed one crucial aspect. They substituted some fabricated film titles for real films.

They reported yesterday that 68 per cent of 11-year-olds claim to have seen films which do not exist. The psychologists said: "Our opinion is that Dr Hill's questionnaire is far too confusing for even 11-year-olds in junior schools."

The two, Dr Guy Cumberbatch and Mr Paul Bates, said: "Frankly we found it embarrassing to waste the time of children and teachers on it."

The researchers say that their evidence is so serious that it questions the original survey. After administering the questionnaire to five classes of 11-year-olds, Dr Cumberbatch and Mr Bates said: "The pattern of results was so stable that we could see no point in continuing."

The Bill which seeks to outlaw "video nasties" is now in the House of Lords.

## Ronay laments lack of first-rate pubs

"Pub crawling" is a dispiriting business for Egon Ronay's inspectors. For the grand inquisitor's 1984 *Guinness Pub Guide*, published today, they made their way to more than 2,700 recommended hostels and found only 947, just over a third, that they thought worthy of inclusion.

"The sad truth is that we have to keep digging even more deeply and widely with very poor results," Mr Ronay laments. "The water-tin coverage of certain areas is not our fault but that of the pubs."

So it is that the home of Newcastle Brown is judged to have but one public house worth mentioning. Even then it fares better than much of Yorkshire, the supposed home of good beer. Bradford, Leeds, and Sheffield are all judged devoid of commendable public houses, and so are Keighley, Halifax, Dewsbury, Barnsley, Doncaster, and Scunthorpe.

In London, the Ronay inspectors tested 62 public houses newly recommended to them, but only eight were thought worth an entry.

Mr Ronay judges public houses more by the food they serve than the beer, but says that the importance of food sales in public houses is greater than ever.

Nearly nine-tenths of the public houses included in the book said that they would not be financially viable without the sale of food. Two thirds said that more than three quarters of the food they served was "home-made", but elsewhere Mr Ronay says, that phrase was used to describe "a few salad leaves lying limply in the contents of some convenience pack".

Some recommended public houses serve bar food that is not just very good but "exquisite", Mr Ronay says, producing dishes that would be worthy of starred restaurants in his *Hotel and Restaurant Guide*.

The Rhydyspace Inn at Whitney-on-Wye is chosen as Pub of the Year, commended for "charming accommodation, marvellous bar food, and authentic atmosphere".

Egon Ronay's *Guinness Pub Guide 1984 to Food and Accommodation*. (Mitchell Beazley, £3.95).

## Royal Court day of decision

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

Theatrical luminaries of the nature of Samuel Beckett, Sir Michael Redgrave, and Sir Peter Hall have set themselves in the ranks of its supporters, but the Royal Court Theatre remains pessimistic about the fate which will be outlined to it today.

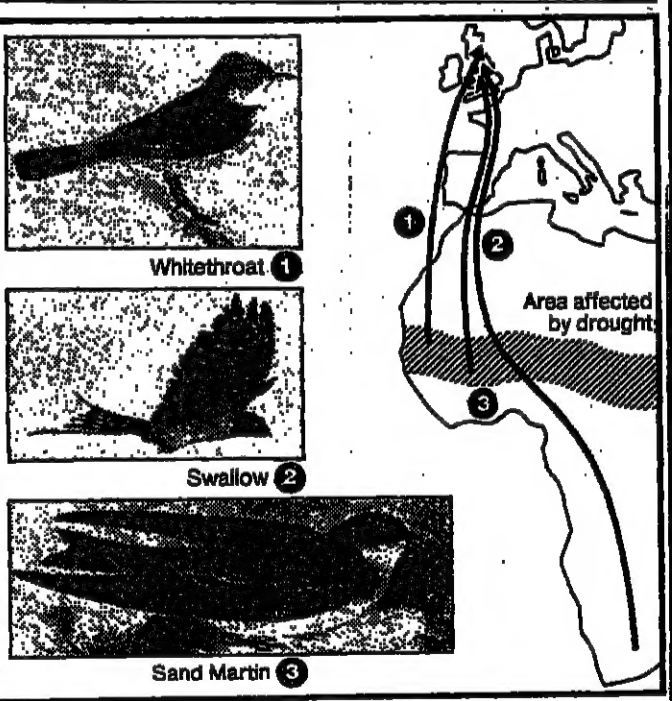
The theatre, home of the English Stage Company for 28 years, is likely to be one of the best known names on the list of grants cuts announced by the Arts Council as part of a policy of shifting funds from London to the regions.

The London stage, which Mr Max Stafford-Clark, its artistic director, describes as "the National Theatre of new writing", relies on £483,000 from the council and £21,000 from the Greater London Council. If the Arts Council grant disappears or is cut substantially, a number of members of the council's own advisory drama panel are expected to resign in protest at the action.

With the abolition of the GLC threatening what remains of the theatre's income, the prospect of closure seems greater than at any period in the company's history, though there are those who are convinced that a last-minute deal will emerge to enable it to survive.

In recent years, the Royal Court has cut its main-hall productions from eight or nine a year to four, and its small upstairs hall from eight or nine to three so that it can live within its grants.

It attracts average audiences of 55 per cent capacity, and expects to make a small surplus this year through the popularity of its most recent play, *Tom and Viv*.



Source: Bird migration, Chris Mead (Country Life Books).

## Drought takes toll of migrant birds

By Kenneth Gosling

Severe drought south of the Sahara, which has brought starvation and misery to thousands of Africans, is expected to have a marked effect this spring on the number of birds returning to Britain after wintering in the area.

"Our understanding is that this winter's drought has been worse than any other over the last 50 years", Mr Chris Mead, ringing officer of the British Trust for Ornithology, said yesterday.

Among species worst affected are the swallow, white-throat, sedge warbler, redstart and sand martin.

Oxfam has asked the trust for

the information it has in order to aid its own efforts in the area.

During the last severe drought in the late 1960s the bird populations which are expected to be affected again, were depleted by about two thirds. The white-throat population has recovered only slightly.

"Global weather patterns are the problem", Mr Mead said.

"The Sahel drought has happened on and off over a long time. The Sahara has got bigger anyway and climatic changes are causing this increasing spread southwards and affecting the human population as well."

## Football ban on mud attack boy

A committee chaired by a Justice of the Peace has banned Anthony Green, aged 11, of Bowland Crescent, Dunstable, from playing football until 1985. He threw mud at a referee and his friend, Paul Quinn, who owned up to calling the official a "walley" was suspended until just before the beginning of next season.

The sentences, imposed by Bedfordshire Football Association, have been described as savage by the boys' league. An appeal is planned to the Football Association.

The incident happened in the changing room after Dunstable Dynamo 11-year-olds lost 5-2 to Lewsey Centre in a Chiltern League game. The club was asked to name the culprits, but no one came forward until the team was threatened with suspension.

## Lawyers ordered to be struck off

The Solicitors' Disciplinary Tribunal in London yesterday ordered five solicitors to be struck off the Roll of Solicitors.

They were David Edgar Abbott Cooke, of London; Peter Robert Madge, of Cardiff; Giles Adrian Esler, of Long Crendon, Buckinghamshire; Thomas James Stuart Cook, of Christchurch, Dorset; and Christopher Anthony Goddard, of Colchester, Essex.

## Teachers warned about cane

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

Head teachers in primary and secondary schools were advised yesterday by one of their unions to use the cane less and often to move towards its eventual abolition.

New guidelines on discipline, issued by the National Association of Head Teachers, which has more than 20,000 members, also say that it is highly inadvisable for men to administer corporal punishment to girls.

"Under no circumstances should corporal punishment be administered to girls from the age of puberty upwards, except on the hand", the association says. "In the case of girls below the age of puberty, the punishment administered should be only such as would be used by a reasonable and caring parent."

The advice comes at a time of confusion in schools about the subject. The European Court of Human Rights has ruled that children may not be beaten against their parents' wishes. As a result, Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, issued a White Paper saying that parents' wishes must be respected but rejecting a complete ban.

However, the law has not yet been changed so teachers are technically still able to wield the cane. Yesterday, leaders of the association said it would have been much better if Sir Keith had outlawed corporal punishment because the European Court was bound to do so.

"The Secretary of State

should have the courage of his convictions and ban it", Mr John Swallow, president of the association and head of Ongar School in Essex, said.

Mr David Hart, the association's general secretary, said Sir Keith should have set a date for the abolition of corporal punishment and in the meantime have consulted on staffing and resources in order to affect such a decision. "I think he should still do this", Mr Hart said.

The association states that only a small minority of heads still use the cane. Its advice to members contains tips on discipline which it says should always concentrate on encouragement and praise rather than on criticism, and punishment.

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Mr Stafford-Clark yesterday: Fate in balance.



## PARLIAMENT March 29 1984

## Miners must be enabled to go to work

## COAL DISPUTE

The overwhelming majority of British people, except the Labour Party, supported police action against miners pickets, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, Prime Minister, said during question time in the Commons.

She added that it was an upside down world in which Opposition MPs blamed the police for enabling law-abiding miners to go to work while endorsing the action of those who attempted to prevent them going to work.

She described as "nonsense" a claim by one Labour MP that her Government's policies were bound to produce unrest throughout the country.

Mr Anthony Favell (Stockport, C) started the exchanges when he said: Did the Prime Minister see on television this morning Mr Eric Heffer, the chairman of the Labour Party, give his support to mass pickets?

Would she assure those miners wanting to work and produce coal at a price which people can afford, that they have the support and the respect of the vast majority of this nation? (Loud Conservative cheers.)

Mrs Thatcher: I wholly agree that those miners who want to go to their

work in order to produce coal which has a great future, because that industry has a great future, must be enabled to go about their law abiding duties peacefully.

I believe the overwhelming majority of people in this country, except perhaps the Labour Party, are behind the police in the excellent work they are doing.

Mr Martin Flannery (Sheffield, Hillsborough, Lab) It is clear when one looks at the situation in London Transport yesterday, the marches and demonstrations in London today, and what is happening in Liverpool and throughout with working people generally - (Conservative laughter) - that the draconian policies of this Government are pregnant with violence and an election of a Tory Government of this type is bound to produce unrest throughout the country.

Mrs Thatcher: Nonsense. In respect of the action by London Transport yesterday, most commuters were determined to get to work and did so. (Loud Conservative cheers.)

Mr Michael Hirst (Stratford-on-Avon, C) Has she seen reports of the speech made last week by Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, in the National Federation of Self-Employed in which he recognised the importance of small business?

Mrs Thatcher: Those who are not concerned with the commercial success of our capital, most people were determined to see it was business as usual.



Flannery: Policies bound to produce unrest.

His apparent conversion would sound less opportunist and more convincing if his side of the House was prepared to recognise and welcome the many measures in this year's Budget for assisting small business.

Mrs Thatcher: Not only is the budget designed to help small business, it is designed to assist all business, particularly in taking off the National Insurance surcharge, which Labour put on in the first place.

Mr Angela Rumbold (Mitcham and Morden, C) The day of disruption we had yesterday in London caused by striking London Transport workers caused not only disruption to the people trying to get to work but great damage to the capital's commercial and industrial life.

Mrs Thatcher: Those who are not concerned with the commercial success of our capital, most people were determined to see it was business as usual.

## Thatcher's EEC ideals yet to be achieved

## EUROPE

There were still very great differences between Britain and her European Community partners to be resolved, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said during Commons questions in response to Dr David Owen, Leader of the SDP, who asked what was the narrow divide that still existed between what Mrs Thatcher felt was vital for Britain and what she felt was reasonable to ask from the other EEC members.

Some people (said Dr Owen) would find it easier to understand her ideas for the EEC if every now and then they got the feeling that she was prepared to listen a bit more to some of the other European leaders.

Mrs Thatcher: By even asking that question he indicates he does not understand the kind of negotiations we were having on the Community budget.

They are about two things. First, a continuous system which will endure for a long time, but which is not so difficult to negotiate.

Second, they are about the starting figure for that system which would determine what would happen in the future.

There are still great differences between us to be resolved. They are not possible to quantify, as Dr Owen would know if he understood our negotiations. We are carrying out Mr Enoch Powell's (Down, South, OUP) When the Prime Minister reflects upon the point which has been reached between the UK and the rest of the EEC, will she bear in mind that when grave issues and fundamental differences are at issue for resolution, nothing is commoner than for the issue to be disguised as if it were a quarrel about details and small sums of money, such as a little, local difficulty over £200?

Mrs Thatcher: It is in money terms about a great deal more than that. It is about the whole system and a permanent system and getting a fundamentally equitable system of sharing the burdens of financing the Common Market.

I agree with him it is about even more than that. Many of us had far greater ideas for the EEC than have yet been achieved. We shall continue to work at them. We believe other matters, financial and agricultural, have to be settled first.

Mr Ian Stewart, Economic Secretary to the Treasury, said in a Commons written answer that the UK's net payments to the EEC from January 1, 1973 to December 31, 1983, taking into account refunds received, amounted to £4,777m.

Two days for Bill on London Transport

The main business in the House of Commons next week will be: Monday: Trade Union Bill, completion of report stage.

Tuesday: Opposition Motion on investment in education. Debate on current negotiations in the EEC.

Wednesday and Thursday: London Regional Transport Bill, progress on second reading.

Friday: Private Members' Bills: Childs Abduction Bill, remaining stages. Immigration Offices (Amendment) Bill, second reading.

The main business in the House of Commons next week will be: Monday: Video Recordings Bill, second reading.

Tuesday: London Docklands Railway Bill, third reading. Repatriation of Prisoners Bill, report stage. Straw and Stubbs Burning Prohibition Bill, committee.

Wednesday: Debate on interest rates.

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# "Of course The Economist isn't elitist. Nearly every Company Chairman I know seems to read it"

J. E. Aisher,  
Marley plc.  
D. I. Allport,  
Metal Box plc.  
John D. Ambler,  
Texaco Ltd.  
D. V. Atterton,  
Foseco Minsep plc.  
E. G. Beaumont,  
Bunzl plc.  
J. M. Beckett,  
F. W. Woolworth plc.  
H. P. N. Benson CBE, MC,  
Davy Corporation.  
Sir Austin Bide,  
BL Public Limited Company.  
M. G. Bird,  
Massey-Ferguson Holdings Ltd.  
Viscount Blakenham,  
S. Pearson & Son plc.  
H. K. Bowden,  
Conoco Ltd.  
Nigel Broackes,  
Trafalgar House plc.  
Sir Adrian Cadbury,  
Cadbury Schweppes plc.  
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Booker McConnell plc.  
J. S. Camm,  
DRG plc.  
S. G. Cameron,  
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The Rt. Hon. the Lord Carrington  
CH, KCMG, MC,  
The General Electric Company plc.  
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British & Commonwealth Shipping.  
C. J. Chetwood,  
George Wimpey plc.  
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Sir Robert Clark,  
Hill Samuel Group plc.  
Sir James Cleminson,  
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Coats Patons plc.  
Basil E. S. Collins,  
Nabisco Brands Ltd.  
John Collyear,  
AE plc.  
Sir Terence Conran,  
Habitat/Mothercare plc.  
Gilbert A. Cooke,  
C. T. Bowring & Co. Ltd.  
Sir Kenneth Corfield,  
Standard Telephones and Cables plc.  
Sir John Cuckney,  
Brooke Bond Group plc.  
Sir Alan Dalton,  
English China Clays plc.

Kenneth Dixon,  
Rowntree Mackintosh plc.  
Sir James Duncan,  
Transport Development Group plc.  
Sir William Duncan,  
Rolls-Royce Ltd.  
P. P. Dunkley MC,  
Mitchell Cotts Group.  
K. Durham,  
Unilever plc.  
Basil de Ferranti,  
Ferranti plc.  
F. G. Flood,  
BPB Industries plc.  
John Fleming,  
Vauxhall Motors Ltd.  
A. W. Forster,  
Esso UK plc.  
The Lord Forte,  
Trusthouse Forte.  
David Gestetner,  
Gestetner Holdings plc.  
Sir Arnold Hall,  
Hawker Siddeley Group plc.  
J. O. Hambro,  
Charter Consolidated.  
The Lord Hanson,  
Hanson Trust.  
J. H. Harvey-Jones MBE,  
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Robert Haslam,  
Tate & Lyle plc.  
H. J. Heinz II,  
H. J. Heinz Co.  
H. R. Hewitt,  
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Sir Maurice Hodgson,  
British Home Stores plc.  
C. A. Hogg,  
Courtaulds plc.  
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The Viscount Hood,  
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Simon Hornby,  
W. H. Smith & Son Ltd.  
Nicholas Horsley,  
Northern Foods plc.  
Sir Alex Jarratt CB,  
Reed International plc.  
G. C. Kent,  
Imperial Group plc.  
The Lord King of Wartnaby,  
Babcock International plc.  
Sir Christophor Laidlaw,  
ICL plc.  
Sir Hector Laing,  
United Biscuits plc.  
J. G. S. Longcroft,  
Tricentral plc.

Sir Duncan McDonald CBE,  
Northern Engineering Industries plc.  
Sir Ronald McIntosh KCB,  
APV Holdings plc.  
Sir Patrick Meaney,  
The Rank Organisation plc.  
John M. Menzies,  
John Menzies plc.  
W. N. Menzies-Wilson,  
Ocean Transport & Trading plc.  
John Milne,  
Blue Circle Industries plc.  
R. Milner,  
Kodak Ltd.  
N. M. Mischler,  
Hoechst UK Ltd.  
D. A. G. Monk,  
The Dee Corporation plc.  
C. E. Needham,  
Coalite Group plc.  
Sir David Nicolson F.Eng., MEP,  
Rothmans International plc.  
D. W. Nickson CBE,  
Scottish & Newcastle Breweries plc.  
Sir Edwin Nixon,  
IBM United Kingdom Ltd.  
Sir David Orr,  
Inchcape plc.  
H. Orr-Ewing,  
Rank Xerox Ltd.  
Sir Austin Pearce CBE,  
British Aerospace plc.  
D. C. F. Pearson,  
Gill & Duffus Group plc.  
The Lord Pennock,  
BICC plc.  
A. R. Pilkington,  
Pilkington Brothers plc.  
Sir Leslie Porter,  
Tesco plc.  
Sir Montague Prichard,  
Tozer Kemsley & Millbourn  
(Holdings) plc.  
R. G. Puttick,  
Taylor Woodrow Group.  
W. M. Pybus,  
AAH Holdings plc.  
John Michael Raisman CBE,  
Shell UK Ltd.  
Ken Roberts,  
Norcross plc.  
Sir John Russell,  
Elf Aquitaine UK (Holdings) Ltd.  
Sir John Sainsbury,  
J. Sainsbury plc.  
The Viscount Sandon T.D.,  
Powell Duffryn plc.  
The Rt. Hon. Lord Duncan  
Sandys,  
Lonrho plc.

Ernest W. Saunders,  
Guinness Brewing Worldwide.  
A. P. Schenk,  
C. Czarnikow Ltd.  
A. T. Shadforth,  
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Whitbread & Co Ltd.  
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A. W. Wagstaff,  
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R. C. Wheeler-Bennett,  
Thomas Borthwick & Sons plc.  
Sir Frederick Wood,  
Croda International plc.  
C. T. Wyatt,  
Costain Group plc.  
F. E. Zollinger,  
Imperial Continental Gas Assoc.

Above, you see just a few of our regular readers. (We'd like to thank them for their public support.)

We'd be surprised, however, if all of them loved The Economist at first sight.

More often than not, it's an acquired taste.

Sometimes, it may need three or four issues before the habit takes.

But when it does, just look how far it can take you:

The Economist



# Mitterrand cuts jobs in crisis hit industries but more may have to go

From Diana Geddes, Paris

Braving increasing unrest among the unions, the French Government yesterday approved plans involving substantial cutbacks in the crisis-ridden steel, coal and shipbuilding industries. Observers still wonder whether the cuts are big enough, however.

In the steel industry, for example, the Government had announced job losses of 20,000, representing one-fifth of the total workforce, by 1987, whereas it had been estimated that at least 30,000 jobs have to be shed over the next couple of years if the industry was to balance its books by the end of 1985 under EEC directives.

Steel production has already been cut by more than a third over the last decade, and the workforce has been cut by a similar amount, but the industry still made a loss of more than 10 billion francs (£870m) last year.

When the Socialists first came to power, they announced plans to invest 17.5 billion francs in the steel industry, cut 11,000 jobs and increase production to 24 million tons by 1986. In fact, production last year totalled less than 18 million tons and is due to fall even further. Hence the bitter

feelings of betrayal and anger among the workers.

President Mitterrand himself was left to take the unenviable decision at yesterday's Cabinet meeting to abandon the 1.3 billion franc plans for the construction of a universal rolling mill at Grandrange in Lorraine.

The Cabinet had been split down the middle on the issue, with M Laurent Fabius, the Industry Minister, and the Communist ministers firmly backing the project, and M Jacques Delors, the Finance Minister, and M Pierre Mauroy, the prime minister, equally firmly against it.

Feelings are running particularly high in Lorraine, an area of high unemployment heavily dependent on its declining steel and coal industries. On Wednesday, all the unions representing the steel workers in the area called on their members on strike, the first time such joint action had been taken since 1979.

Violence broke out at Longwy-Haut in Lorraine yesterday, as about 200 steel workers ransacked the new tax office in the town after breaking through the iron railings and dumping a ton of iron on the entrance.

After price increases of 1.4 per cent for the first two months of this year, M Delors admitted earlier this week that the Government was now unlikely to reach its target of 5 per cent inflation for the whole of the year. He is now talking of 6 per cent. That will inevitably have serious repercussions for the Government's "guidelines" for a wage rise of no more than 5 per cent this year.

Further trouble with the unions is likely to arise from the recent "admission" by M Jack Ralhe, Communist Minister for Employment, that the number of unemployed could rise by 600,000 to a total of 2.6 million by the end of the year if the rise in unemployment over the past two months continued at its present rate.

For coal, the Cabinet confirmed the Government's decision to maintain public aid to the industry at 6.5 billion francs for the next five years, which will mean a substantial cut in real terms and marks a complete reversal of the Government's earlier policy.

In shipbuilding, the Cabinet confirmed the Government's promise to keep open all five yards, but to reduce their production capacity by 30 per cent over the next two years.

## Senghor made first black 'Immortal'

From Our Own Correspondent, Paris

The Académie Française, hallowed sanctuary of the 40 guardians of the French language, opened the doors of its country's most exclusive club yesterday to its first black member, M Leopold Senghor, a former President of Senegal, and a poet and writer of international renown.

President Mitterrand, in his capacity as "protector" of the Academy, attended the investiture ceremony of the newest "immortal", as the academicians



Leopold Senghor: 'Immortal'

are known, along with three government ministers and nearly 400 other dignitaries and guests. He was only the second French President to have attended such a ceremony.

The main task of the Academy, founded in 1635 by Louis XIII at the instigation of Cardinal Richelieu, is to keep under constant review the use of the French language, periodically producing books on French grammar and updating the first authoritative dictionary produced by the Academy in 1694.

The eighth and last edition of the dictionary was published in 1935. Work on the ninth has begun, but is proceeding at a snail's pace: the academicians have not yet beyond the letter "E". The definitions are adopted during the regular Thursday meetings of the "immortals", who include distinguished politicians, scientists, churchmen and artists, as well as literary figures.

The only requirement for an academician is French nationality.



Controversial MP: Mr Stephen Lusher, who caused an uproar in the Australian federal Parliament after saying the dole should be cut.

## Cairo cool over Libyan threat

From Alice Brinton, Cairo

President Mubarak does not appear to be unduly alarmed by the threat of a Libyan march on the Egyptian border.

The president told reporters yesterday in Cairo: "We don't consider what the Libyan leader said was important. We are used to his words, we are not nervous. I don't think there is any further escalation of the situation."

Earlier this month, Colonel Gaddafi called for a Libyan march on the Egyptian border to impose unity between the two countries. The march was to begin on Wednesday.

Nevertheless, the semi-official Cairo newspaper, *Al-Ahram*, yesterday warned that Egypt would regard any Libyan march towards the Egyptian borders as a "flagrant and direct aggression" and "would deal with it accordingly".

In a front-page article, Mr

Ibrahim Naif, the paper's editor, said: "A decision by one country to cross into the territory of another by force is plain aggression by all international standards." He added: "Egypt will repel such aggression."

On Wednesday Colonel Gaddafi threatened to "upset the balance" in north-east Africa unless, as he put it, the United States "withdrew" from Egypt and Sudan. He attacked both countries for calling in US Awaas surveillance aircraft.

Although President Mubarak clearly wishes to play down the Libyan threat, he did admit that the Egyptian Army was on full alert as his ally, Sudan, continued to blame Libya for the bombing raid on Omdurman, the outskirts of Khartoum, on March 16.

Egypt will certainly not strike the first blow in this battle of wills with Libya unless there is a direct attack by the Libyans. In

the meantime, Egypt intends to keep a keen watch on its borders and continue to strengthen its security measures.

Meanwhile, Egypt's banished Coptic Pope, Shenouda III, has predicted that he will soon be rehabilitated. "I am sure there will be an end to this incarceration soon", he said.

The late President Sadat withdrew state recognition from Pope Shenouda and banished him to a desert monastery in September, 1981, for what he called the Pope's role in attempts to stir up sectarian trouble between Muslims and Copts.

Last April, an administrative court in Cairo confirmed Sadat's decree stripping the Pope of his temporal powers to the dismay of Egypt's Copts, who do not feel that a head of state should have the power to dismiss a patriarch elected by "the will of God."



Peace Watch: A Lebanese policeman talking to French soldiers at Beirut's 'Green line'.

## French troops hand over to truce force

From Our Correspondent, Beirut

Lebanese police and white-helmeted French truce observers began taking over posts along the "Green Line" dividing east and west Beirut yesterday after a new committee began work on bringing about a true ceasefire in the Lebanese capital.

A round of handshaking marked the take-over of positions from departing French soldiers who are the remnants of the multinational force that once included British, Italian and American contingents.

But amid the ceremony at Beirut's battered race track occasional bursts of gunfire could be heard, making clear that at least some of the Muslim and Christian militiamen who have been fighting off-and-on for nine years were not yet ready for a truce.

But the scattered sniping was little compared to the heavy, random artillery fire on Wednesday that left more than 20 people dead before the "higher security-political committee" held its first meeting under the

leadership of President Amin Gemayel.

The committee - made up of representatives of the Army and warning Christian, Druze and Shia militias - met for four hours yesterday. It issued a statement saying it had taken "important steps" that would soon produce results.

The force taking over from the departing French troops is made up of 40 retired French officers, Lebanese police, retired Lebanese Army and police officers, and army reservists.

The 300 Lebanese police and the French observers took over some positions, but many French soldiers remained in the area between the Christian and Muslim militias. The French force is expected to complete its withdrawal tomorrow.

The day of relative calm in Beirut came amid fresh trouble in southern Lebanon. Four Israeli soldiers were wounded in Rihane, a village near Nabatieh, when one of them stepped on a landmine.

## Jerusalem embassy ruled out by Reagan

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

President Reagan has said that it would be "most unwise" for the United States to move its embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem and has hinted that he would veto legislation to require such a step.

Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, and other senior officials have already voiced opposition to a move in Congress to pass a Bill calling for the transfer of the American embassy to Jerusalem. But the President's remarks, in an interview with *The New York Times* published yesterday, were the first time he has asked whether he would veto the Bill, he said: "I am saying I won't have to. But like the several previous Presidents before me, I think that this is a most unwise thing. It should never have been introduced in our Congress."

He observed that the "place of Jerusalem, the West Bank (of the Jordan River), things of this kind" must be negotiated between Israel and the Arabs. "The US has no right to put itself in a position of trying to force one way or the other on those areas for negotiation".

Both Mr Walter Mondale and Senator Gary Hart, the Democratic presidential nomination contenders, favour moving the US Embassy to Jerusalem, which Israel has proclaimed its eternal capital. Arab and other Muslim countries have strongly opposed any such move.

Mr Shultz has said publicly it would be very damaging to US interests. "It involves the old city of Jerusalem. It involves the deeply religious sites and connotations of that city. When you touch that, you touch a raw nerve running across the Muslim world."

The Bill has more than 30 sponsors in the Senate and more than 200 in the House of Representatives.

Meanwhile, the Senate foreign relations committee on Wednesday voted to guarantee Israel a minimum level of economic aid for the next several years, a commitment regarded as highly unusual in American foreign aid funding.

The committee's action in providing enough economic support each year to cover the Israeli repayment of principal and interest on previous US loans reflected the importance of the Jewish vote in a Presidential election year and growing concern over Israel's financial problems.

The committee tentatively agreed to increase economic aid to Israel to \$1.2 billion (£827m) in 1985, \$350m more than President Reagan's request. Israel owes the United States about \$1.1 billion this year.

## Challenges to Israel's leaders

From Moshe Brilliant, Tel Aviv

Political speculation in Israel yesterday centred on whether the standard bearers of Likud and Labour in the July 23 national elections will be the charismatic Mr Yitzhak Shamir and Mr Shimon Peres or whether the parties will prefer more exciting leaders.

Mr Shamir, the Prime Minister, has already been challenged for the Likud nomination by Ariel Sharon, who nurses a grudge because Mr Shamir has refused him a government portfolio after he was ousted as Minister of Defence last year.

Mr Shamir's supporters seemed little concerned by the challenge of the one-time war hero, who was denounced by a commission of inquiry for indirect responsibility for the Phalangist massacre of Palestinians in Beirut when he was Defence Minister, but Mr Sharon has been, patiently, restless without executive responsibilities and he indicated he might be content with assurances of a Cabinet portfolio if Likud forms a government again.

A more serious challenger

would be Mr David Levy, who ran against Mr Shamir for the Likud nomination last year. An immigrant from Morocco, he is effective on the hustings among Jews from Middle East countries, who make up a large element of Likud voters.

He is considered a bigger electoral asset than Mr Shamir, but his handicap has been inexperience in foreign affairs. After his defeat for the nomination last year, he wanted the foreign affairs portfolio in the Cabinet and appeared chagrined that Mr Shamir kept it for himself.

Mr Levy has not yet announced his candidature this time but kept all his options open.

In the Labour Party, the situation may clarify today when Mr Yitzhak Navon, the former President, informs Mr Peres of his plans. Public opinion polls have indicated that Mr Navon, who had been an extraordinary popular president, can muster the largest number of voters for Labour, but Mr Peres has pointed out that the polls recently showed

Labour will win, no matter who is the standard-bearer.

Mr Yitzhak Rabin, Prime Minister of the last Labour Government and a bitter rival of Mr Peres for many years, has kept his plans to himself. An aid said he conferred with Mr Navon on Wednesday and was awaiting his decision today before deciding whether to run.

The July 23 election date was set on Wednesday by Mr Shamir and Mr Peres, and requires confirmation in the Knesset legislative Act. The House ended its winter session on Wednesday night and will be convened for an extraordinary session next week for a first reading of three private members' Bills for the dissolution of Parliament, which passed their preliminary reading last Thursday.

The following week another extraordinary meeting will be held for a final reading. Some deputies said the legislature may delay the polling 24 hours because a Tuesday would be more convenient than a Monday.

## US out to sink \$100m pirates

From David Watts, Singapore

The pirates of Singapore cost the British and American recording industries about \$100m (£70m) a year in lost sales. And the situation has become so serious that America may seek to curb the republic's trading privileges if there is no action to scuttle the pirates.

Firms, which want to bring high-technology investment to the island, are also worried that new computer ideas may be pilfered. Later this year, a delegation from the US Department of Commerce, the State Department and the Library of Congress will visit Singapore to encourage the Government to clean up the industry.

If President Reagan's visit had gone ahead last year, he would have conveyed the same message. Extension of the general system of preferences for Singapore at the end of this year could be in jeopardy.

Repeated requests from foreign investors, including a visit last year by the Attorney-General, Sir Michael Havers, have produced little progress. A committee to

review the republic's copyright laws have been sitting for months without success.

"The pirates seem to have some powerful friends," one investigator said. They also appear to be determined. When an official of the British company, EMI, tried to look into their activities, he was warned off with death threats.

EMI may have to close its record-pressing plant in the republic, with the loss of 100 jobs. Profits for the legitimate makers of records and tapes are a thing of the past and the best they can hope for is to break even.

One reason for the lack of action appears to be a disagreement within the Government. The legal branch wants to improve Singapore's image, as does the Ministry of Culture, but the Minister, himself, Mr S. Dhanabalan, has said there is no local talent in Singapore worth protecting.

Other government figures think record prices are too high and the British and American companies should reduce them.

But the pirates are hard to beat with an estimated 1,000 illegitimate outlets for cassette tapes in the republic and only one legitimate outlet, run by EMI.

Big business is not in the home market, however. In 1982, Singapore exported nearly 36 million pre-recorded cassettes, not to mention pirate blanks of both audio and video cassettes.

The pirates' story begins in London or Los Angeles when an employee of one of the international airlines picks up a copy of a new album. Within 24 hours, that LP is back in Singapore, and one of the top three pirates will be running off cassette copies at the rate of 1,500 an hour.

The trouble is their quality is excellent, a record company executive admits. "They no longer just make a straight copy of the album. Now, they make their own master tape from which they make the copies and, very often the quality is so good you can't tell it from the original."

## Greek ship struck in Gulf

Athens (Reuters) - An Iraqi missile struck the engine room of the Greek cargo ship *Lapetus* at the head of the Gulf, causing fire on board, the Greek Merchant Marine Ministry said. The 16 crew, who were unhurt, abandoned the 16,230-ton ship and were picked up by a tug.

Iraq said earlier that its Navy and Air Force had destroyed four big "enemy naval targets" in the area.

## Jet crash pilots to be charged

Geneva (Reuters) - The Geneva prosecutor has brought manslaughter and bodily harm charges against two pilots of a Swiss charter jet which crashed into the sea near Madeira in 1977 with the loss of 36 lives. The pilots are accused of breaking flight regulations, including one calling for night landings to be made only by pilots acquainted with Madeira airport.

## Second plane hijacked

Miami (Reuters) - A Delta Airlines Boeing 727 with 19 passengers and seven crew arrived back in the United States after a lone hijacker diverted the plane to Cuba. The plane, which was en route to Dallas from New Orleans, was the second United States aircraft in 36 hours, forced to fly to Cuba.

## Abattoir visit

Lobatse, Botswana (Reuters) - The Prince of Wales toured Africa's biggest slaughterhouse here on the fourth day of a five-day visit to Botswana, where he is inspecting projects of the Commonwealth Development Corporation, of which he is a director.

## Best-seller Deng

Peking (Reuters) - Chinese bookshops last year sold 34 million copies of the selected works of Mr Deng Xiaoping, the country's effective ruler, making him China's best-selling author.

## Troops seized

Bangkok (Reuters) - Thailand said it had captured 40 Vietnamese troops inside its border yesterday - the greatest number captured by Thailand in border clashes since Vietnam invaded Cambodia in 1979.

## Tunis high-tech

Rome - The first African conference on computer communications, Africom, is to be held in Tunis from May 21 to 23.

## Correction

Princess Alia is the daughter of King Hussein of Jordan, not his sister, as stated on Wednesday in a photograph caption supplied by an agency.



Fashion craze: Peking shoppers mob the counter at a sale of Western suits.

## Duarte ahead in snail's pace count

San Salvador (AP) - The Christian Democratic presidential candidate, Senator Napoleón Duarte, increased his lead over the representative of the extreme right, Major D'Aubuisson, as the count from Sunday's presidential election in El Salvador continued at a snail's pace.

With 25 per cent of the vote tallied, Duarte led with 119,612 votes, or 40 per cent, to Major D'Aubuisson's 94,737, or 31.2 per cent. The Christian

Democrat was expected to increase his lead when votes are counted from the larger cities, where Duarte is strongest.

Because of confusion and bickering at the Central Electoral Council, which supervised the polling, the final results are not expected to be made public before the weekend.

But Christian Democratic Party supporters admitted that Senator Duarte is not going to obtain the absolute majority required by law, and will have

to face Major D'Aubuisson in a run-off, probably on May 6. Senator Duarte, aged 58, appeared strongest among the middle class and the peasants, to whom he gave land and credits in a series of land, banking and social reforms that he pushed through while President.

Major D'Aubuisson, aged 40, and his Nationalist Republican Alliance (Arena) are backed by the old wealthy families, in alliance with the military.

Dr Francisco José Guerrero, whose conservative National Conciliation Party (PCN) ruled El Salvador through fraudulent elections until it was overthrown by a military coup in October, 1979, followed Senator Duarte and Major D'Aubuisson with 69,104 votes, or 22.8 per cent.

West German MPs who observed the Salvadoran elections gave the poll their qualified blessing yesterday (Reuters reports).

## Daughter of Marcos to be election candidate

From Keith Dalton, Manila

The 28-year-old daughter of President Marcos yesterday announced her candidacy in a key Philippines parliamentary election in May, one day after her mother tearfully announced she was not running.

Marcos-Manotok will seek election in her father's home province of Ilocos Norte where her younger brother, Mr Ferdinand Marcos, is Governor. Her election is virtually assured, observers say.

The President's wife told reporters that it was her personal decision not to seek reelection to the 200-member National Assembly, but her daughter's candidacy was "the people's will".

"If the people want her, who am I to say no. Why will I deny them?" This was proof that the people had confidence in the Marcos family, she said, adding that it resolved a bitter squabble for the party nomination in Ilocos Norte between the President's uncle and nephew. President Marcos had earlier

said he was against "political dynasties... unless there is no alternative". His daughter, however, became an exception to the rule. Her candidacy seemed inevitable last weekend when President Marcos, bewailing the lack of political talent in his home province, described his daughter as "a very obstinate lady" because of her initial refusal to accept the party's nomination.

Opposition leaders believe the last-minute candidacy of Mrs Imee Marcos-Manotok, part of a "grand plan" by the President and his wife to groom their children for future political leadership.

Mrs Imelda Marcos's decision not to seek a second six-year parliamentary term is in line with her pledge last September, shortly after the murder of Benigno Aquino, the opposition leader, to give up politics and become the "chief lobbyist" of the private business sector.

## Policeman takes on job as Mafia town mayor

From Peter Nichols, Rome

Inspector Giacomo Grillo, a serving Italian police officer, has become Mayor of Elcamo in Sicily, a town of 60,000 frequently described as a Mafia centre. A special decree was passed to enable him to do so.

As Mayor Resigned at the end of February and left public life altogether, he left wing has suggested he had been threatened by the Mafia.

Inspector Grillo is cautious in talking about this. He points out that two inquiries are in progress into his predecessor's departure, by the regional authorities and the other by the office of the Special High Commissioner combating the Mafia.

The former Mayor made no effort to tell the police about any threats, although the police station is only 200 yards from the town hall.

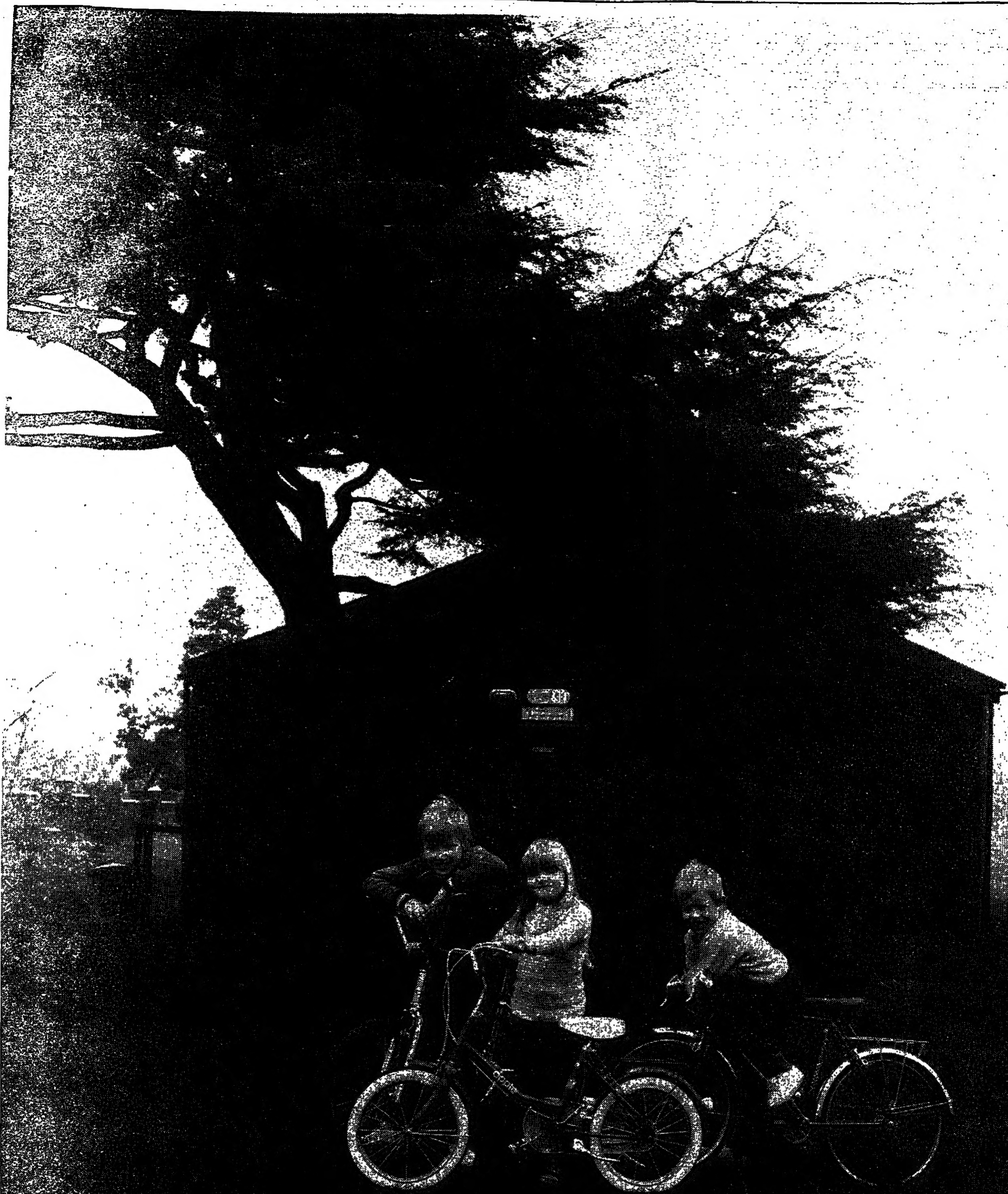
"I love my town". He was born in Elcamo.

Inspector Grillo has kept the Town Planning Department under his personal control, a sensitive post because of alleged Mafia interest in property speculation. But the inspector avoids dramatics. It is up to the mayor, he says, to fill these posts as he thinks fit. He has for the moment decided not to delegate responsibility for town planning to anyone else.

He was elected to the Council as an independent in the Christian Democrat lists. If he sees out his full mandate he will be mayor until June 1985.

Inspector Antonio Cuomo, the mayor of Sorrento who was arrested on charges of corruption, is being held in the Naples prison of Poggioreale. The mayor, a Christian Democrat, was allegedly involved in the distribution of jobs to favourites immediately before the last elections.





## For £450 you could give the kids a treat, instead of giving yourself a cough.

Thanks to the budget, if you smoke twenty cigarettes a day, it's now going to cost you about £450 a year to smoke. Just think what you could do with the money.

You could buy bicycles for the family.

(Get one for yourself, too. You'll have the breath to ride it.)

You could put enough petrol in your car to drive 7,000 miles at 30mpg.

You could give your wife a new outfit.

Or take a holiday for two in the Mediterranean.

All you have to do is give up cigarettes.

You might even be saving something more important than money - yourself.

A young man who smokes twenty a day is 40 times more likely to die of smoking than in a road accident.\*

So if you want another reason to give up, we've got one. Much as your children would like a new bike, they'd love an old Dad even more.



\*Health or Smoking, Royal College of Physicians 1983. In our advertisement on March 14th, we inadvertently stated that tobacco kills 40 times as many people as road accidents; we should have said smokers not people. The fact is, road accidents in the U.K. kill about 6,000 people a year, while tobacco kills about 100,000.



# Attack on coastal town shows Unita's power to sow wide disruption

From Michael Horroby, Johannesburg

The attack by the Angolan rebel movement, Unita, last Sunday on the coastal town of Sumbe (formerly Novo Redondo) only 160 miles south-east of Luanda, the Angolan capital, demonstrated dramatically the ability of the guerrillas to move with impunity over large areas of the country.

Less than a month ago Unita - the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola - raided the north-eastern diamond-mining centre of Kafundo and captured more than 70 foreigners working there, including 16 British technicians. Diamonds are Angola's second biggest foreign exchange earner.

Details of the fighting at Sumbe are still sketchy. A 5,000-strong Unita force claims to have seized the town, a provincial capital, and killed 81 Russians, Bulgarians and Cubans and more than 500 Angolan government troops. The Angolans have confirmed the attack, but say that only eight "pacific citizens" were killed and that the rebels were immediately routed.

Whatever the truth, the mere fact that Dr Jonas Savimbi's guerrillas are operating over such a widespread area is in itself highly significant, and confirms that Unita is now the least controlled and most unpredictable element in the current attempts to end the related Angolan and Namibian (South-West African) conflicts.

Under the agreement reached in Lusaka on February 16, South Africa is withdrawing its troops from those parts of Angola's South-western province which have been occupying for the last three years or more. As they pull out,

the vacated areas are being returned to Angolan control.

The quid pro quo is that Angola has undertaken to prevent the southward infiltration of Swapo (South West Africa People's Organization) guerrillas from their Angolan bases into Namibia, which is still occupied by Pretoria 18 years after its presence there was declared illegal by the United Nations.

Mixed units of the Angolan-South African military monitoring commission set up at Lusaka have, in fact, clashed at least three times this month with Swapo guerrillas who were either unaware of the terms of the accord or were under orders to try to get down into Namibia before the infiltration routes were completely closed.

The Lusaka accord imposes no reciprocal obligation on South Africa to restrain Unita, even though it is generally acknowledged that Pretoria has been Dr Savimbi's main source of arms and ammunition over most of the past decade. There may be some tacit understanding on this point, but it is questionable whether Pretoria could control Unita even if it wanted to.

Dr Savimbi cut his teeth as a guerrilla leader on the Portuguese colonial armed forces, and was around long before the South Africans came on the scene. He leads an authentic black nationalist movement with a base of popular support in the Ovimbundu tribe, which accounts for nearly 40 per cent of the Angolan population.

Pretoria has poured such huge quantities of supplies across the border over the past year or so that even if the South

African lifeline was totally cut off Dr Savimbi would face no serious difficulties for the foreseeable future. In any case, he also gets weapons from Morocco and Saudi Arabia, funnelled into northern and eastern Angola via Zaire.

President Mobutu of Zaire, despite formally correct relations with Luanda, gives full backing to Dr Savimbi. The Unita leader also enjoys warm relations with President Kaunda of Zambia, who has emerged as an important behind-the-scenes mediator in the peace diplomacy in southern Africa.

On the face of it, then, Luanda seems to have allowed itself, under economic pressure, to be manoeuvred into a very one-sided agreement. The Angolans may believe, however, that, freed of South African pressure on their southern border, they can destroy Unita militarily. Recent visitors to Angola report huge shipments of Soviet arms arriving daily.

If that is so, a long period of inconclusive fighting is in prospect. It also means that the estimated 25,000 Cuban troops in Angola will not be sent home soon, thereby continuing to furnish Pretoria with a pretext for refusing to leave Namibia. Unita can somehow be accommodated peacefully no lasting settlement is likely.

Almost certainly the United States is the only country with the diplomatic and economic leverage to bring Luanda and Unita to the negotiating table. In the long run, the very stalemate between Government and rebels, with neither side able to inflict a decisive defeat on the other, could be the best hope of compromise.



Royal welcome: King Olaf of Norway, with King Juan Carlos at his side, taking the salute at Madrid airport on his arrival for a three-day visit to Spain.

## US in middle of Aegean row

From Mario Modiano, Athens

Relations between the United States and the Government of Greece come under review today when Mr Caspar Weinberger, the American Defence Secretary, arrives in Athens for extensive talks with Mr Andreas Papandreu, the Greek Prime Minister, who doubles as Minister of Defence.

The American bases in Greece and a \$2.2 billion plan to modernize the Greek air force are bound to be discussed. But what is likely to cause most of the trouble is the impact of the Greek-Turkish antagonism in the Aegean Sea on Greece's commitment to NATO and its attitude towards the United States.

The American Government is known to be concerned because Greek-Turkish differences over Aegean air space are holding up the creation of a new NATO air command in Athens, central Greece, while the dispute over the military status of the Greek island of Lemnos has prompted Greece to boycott all NATO exercises in the Aegean for over a year.

The Socialist Government in Athens makes its dislike for the Reagan Administration quite plain, but it insists that under the recent agreement on US-Greek bases, the American Government assumed the obligation to maintain the balance

## Swiss spray artist fails to escape jail term

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

A controversial graffiti artist, known as the Sprayer of Zurich, who has been widely acclaimed for his art but sentenced in his home town to nine months' imprisonment for defacing public property, is to be extradited to Switzerland.

The West German constitutional court in Karlsruhe has turned down an application by Herr Harald Naegeli for asylum, saying the punishment he now faces in Switzerland, which includes a fine of 101,534 Swiss francs (£32,000) was not unreasonable. Damage to property could not be justified by the freedom of art. Both in Germany and Switzerland it ought to be possible to produce art without defacing buildings.

Herr Naegeli, who covered more than 100 buildings in Zurich with weird, spindly figures sprayed from aerosol cans in night-time protests against urban sterility, was arrested on a Swiss warrant last August in Germany, and has since been living on bail in Dusseldorf. His graffiti were acclaimed by Swiss artists, and became a tourist attraction, and an art school in Wiesbaden tried to offer him cultural sanctuary.

## Rebels kill two more in Sri Lanka

From Our Correspondent, Colombo

Dissidents in Sri Lanka's Northern Province shot and killed two government employees yesterday soon after security forces had arrested 40 suspects in a pre-dawn swoop.

The killings brought the total number of deaths at the hands of the rebels to eight within the last 10 days. In three earlier incidents two Air Force personnel and four police officers were killed.

The Government reacted angrily yesterday to a statement in Delhi by an External Affairs Ministry spokesman, who expressed regret over the incident on Wednesday in which Air Force personnel in the north killed 10 people when they opened fire after an alleged attack on them. The Government did not dispute the Indian figure of 10.

An official of the Foreign Ministry in Colombo said yesterday the Indian Government had not expressed any regrets when six Sri Lankan servicemen off duty and in civilian clothes had been killed by dissidents. He called the Indian statement "one-sided".

● ISLAMABAD: President Zia ul-Haq said yesterday he was prepared to step down if Pakistanis rejected, in a referendum, his conception of a party-free Islamic democracy.

● DHAKA: The Bangladesh military ruler General Hussain Mohammad Ershad, has rejected opposition party demands that he hand over power to a caretaker government before parliamentary elections due later this year (Reuters reports).

## Commentary



Geoffrey Smith

Washington

The strong showing of the Reverend Jesse Jackson may prove in the long run to be the most significant feature of this year's democratic primaries.

He has never stood the slightest chance of winning the nomination. The American electorate is not ready for a black president and the democratic party knows that well enough. But Mr Jackson has won more support in these primaries than most people had expected.

This week he won more votes than either Mr Walter Mondale or Senator Gary Hart in the traditionally conservative state of Virginia. He has run strongly elsewhere in the South and the 21 per cent of the vote that he gained in Illinois last week came as a surprise to most politicians in that state.

What we are seeing is the political emergence of the black community. Ethnic voting is part of the American political tradition. By voting as a block the Irish, the Italians, the Jews and other immigrant communities have each in their turn won a measure of political power and influence and thereby secured a better place for themselves in American life.

It is understandable that the blacks should flock to do the same but up to now a lower proportion of them than other communities have voted or even registered to vote.

## Treated as an equal

Mr Jackson has changed this by being the first black to run for president and by showing that he can hold his own in campaigning with the other candidates. There he is in the joint debates, one of only three candidates now left in the race, treated as an equal and fully justifying that position by his performance.

I am not suggesting that Mr Jackson would be an acceptable President if only he could be elected. He would not be. Neither his knowledge and experience, nor the degree of personal trust he can inspire, would fit him for the Presidency.

It would also be an exaggeration to claim that Mr Jackson alone had been responsible for the greater political activity of blacks this year.

But his candidacy has undoubtedly been a source of pride and stimulus for the black community. It is unlikely that they will slip back into a political torpor when this campaign is over.

How much influence Mr Jackson will be able to exercise on their behalf this year will depend initially on the outcome of the remaining primaries. If they produce a deadlock between Mr Mondale and Senator Hart, then Mr Jackson could be the power broker at the San Francisco convention.

Already Senator Hart and his staff have been sending friendly signals in Mr Jackson's direction. Even if it is clear long before getting to San Francisco who the Democratic nominee will be, he will still need Mr Jackson's help in November to get black voters to the polls.

## Nkomo's 'darkest moment'

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

Mr Joshua Nkomo, the Zimbabwe opposition leader who fled to Britain in fear of his life a year ago, had to leave his hotel near Heathrow airport when his benefactor, Mr Tiny Rowland of Lonrho, stopped paying the bill.

"At the darkest moment of my life the man I regarded as my friend withdrew his help and left me without either money or a place to live at 12 hours notice," he says in a forthcoming autobiography.

But he admits in *Nkomo: The story of my life* which is being published in mid-April by Methuen, that he came to Britain against the advice of his old friend, Mr Rowland. He telephoned Mr Rowland from Botswana after he had fled his home in Matabeleland, and was advised to stay where he was or return to Zimbabwe.

Even so, when Mr Nkomo ignored his friend's wishes and flew on to London in March last year, Mr Rowland sent a representative to meet him at Heathrow and escort him to the Penta hotel nearby.

By Easter, his health and confidence restored, Mr Nkomo



Mr Joshua Nkomo: "I was very, very angry."

had almost made up his mind to go home. Then came a report by the Catholic bishops of Zimbabwe, which convincingly detailed atrocities committed in Matabeleland by soldiers of the Fifth Brigade. The North Korean-trained "private army" of Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister. Mr Mugabe's reaction was to pour scorn on the report.

"I could not keep silent to do so would have been to betray my own suffering people," Mr Nkomo writes. He immediately called a press conference at which he announced that he was cancelling his plans to

return and that he knew the reports of the atrocities to be true.

On his return to the Penta from the press conference, however, he received a telephone call from the personal assistant to Mr Rowland, whom he thought to be in London.

"Tiny had decided his assistance was to end that night from the following day. I was to be responsible for my own expenses. I was very, very angry... I was furious that my friend should go through an intermediary to tell me what to do."

Despite the apparent split, Mr Nkomo ends by expressing his gratitude to Mr Rowland.

He goes on: "I understand why he did it. People were pressing him. If he went on helping, his investments in Zimbabwe might be threatened. My friends in the Zimbabwe Government wanted me to starve, although I do not see what good it would do them to starve me in the gutter."

Mr Nkomo, who eventually went home on August 15, after five months in self-imposed exile, will be in London for the launch of the book in two weeks' time.

## Referee wins on points in Hart - Mondale battle

## Gloves off as contenders go for the kill

From Nicholas Ashford, New York

The gloves finally came off in New York. The contest between Mr Walter Mondale and Senator Gary Hart for the Democratic presidential nomination, which until now has been described in "house race" terms, has turned into a bare-knuckle contest, with the two combatants slogging at each other in an attempt to deliver a knock-out blow to the solar plexus, the chin or even below the belt.

As the two traded blows in a pre-primary debate at Columbia University, the third candidate in the contest, the Rev Jesse Jackson, took on the role of referee, sometimes siding with one, sometimes the other, and occasionally warning both to hold off and fight clean.

This "rat-a-tat," he told them at one stage, would dominate the news and obscure attention from the real issues at stake - the future direction of the Democratic Party and how to get President Reagan out of the White House.

Wednesday's night's clash provided a revealing glimpse of the growing animosity between Mr Mondale and Mr Hart, both of whom have in the past claimed the other as a friend. Almost the entire hour-long debate was taken up by the two of them criticizing the other's leadership ability, often sarcastically.

At one point, Mr Mondale accused Mr Hart of running misleading television advertisements and demanded: "You pull those ads tonight."

"Why do you run those ads that suggest I'm out trying to kill kids?" Mr Mondale angrily asked the Colorado senator. "All my life I've fought for peace. All my life I've been opposed to any kind of use of American force that isn't totally justified and sensible in the circumstances."



Getting down to it: Mr Mondale courting the youth vote at a New York nursery school.

The hard commercial he was referring to warns that Mr Mondale's policies could lead to thousands of American casualties in a future Central American conflict.

Mr Hart angrily countered with a question of his own. "I would answer by asking you a question. Why have you questioned my commitment to control and civil rights when you know that I have just as much commitment to both of those as you have?"

Much of the debate was taken up by a discussion - a brawl might be a more accurate description - on foreign policy issues, particularly the use of American combat troops overseas.

Mr Hart said he would reaffirm America's commitment to Western Europe,

Japan, Korea, Australia and other Pacific countries.

But he said it was equally important to know where we would not fight. Unlike Mr Mondale, he said, "Some of us have learnt the lesson of Vietnam... and that is why I disagree with the continued presence of American forces in central America."

Mr Mondale responded: "There is a lesson to be learnt from Vietnam. I was late in opposing that war and I've admitted it. It was the worst mistake of my life... the problem with what you are saying is that you learnt the wrong lesson. There is a proper role for American power in the world."

Mr Mondale accused his rival of "pulling the plug" on Central America and of leaving

America's allies to fend for themselves if the Persian Gulf explodes.

The two men joined forces briefly to criticize Mr Reagan's arms control record, but then fell quickly to disputing their claims to seniority and consistency in support of disarmament and a nuclear weapons freeze.

They were also in agreement in their support for Israel.

In the closing comments Mr Mondale, citing his record on arms control, urged New Yorkers next Tuesday to "vote as if your life depended on it... because it might." Mr Hart, if there was a winner it was probably the referee, Mr Jackson. As for the two main contestants, it is clear they will have to trade a lot more punches before either of them is out for the count.

## Haig's memoirs fall on deaf ears in Washington

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

The first instalment of Mr Alexander Haig's memoirs on his traumatic 17 months as Secretary of State landed quietly, almost imperceptibly, on the ever-growing pile of Washington political memoirs. It is quite remarkable how little dust he has stirred with such a weight of malice.

Yet here is a widely disliked man telling stories about President Reagan, Mr Caspar Weinberger, Mr Edwin Neese and others with whom he played the game of power. Nobody is seriously fighting back. It is as though Washington were determined not to hear Mr Haig.

Mr Reagan is attacked in the most subtle way for his seeming detachment from decision-making, but only after a breathless eulogy. Reagan's affability, his habit of speaking plainly without metaphor or jargon, and above all the impression he gives of liking the person he is talking to, create a good atmosphere. Mr Haig writes: "Simply put, Ronald Reagan is a nice guy."

The Associated Press strangled to produce ten photographs the other day on how Mr Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, "mildly ridiculed" the assertion in the memoirs that he was confused after the attempted assassination of President Reagan in 1981. Somebody, anyway, has been slightly stung.

In a meeting in the situation room of the White House after the shooting Mr Weinberger "shocked" Mr Haig by announcing that he had raised the alert status of US forces. Mr Haig said that Mr Weinberger did not seem to know what he was doing at the time and risked raising tensions with the Soviet Union.



General Haig: A widely disliked man

"We seem to have attended different meetings, although we were in the room at the same time," Mr Weinberger said.

Mr Haig acknowledges in the book *Caveat: realism, Reagan and Foreign Policy*, that he should not have declared "I am in control here" while Vice-President George Bush was flying back to Washington from Texas, and while Mr Reagan was on the operating table.

"Certainly I was guilty of a poor choice of words," he said. "Possibly I should have washed my face or taken a half-dozen deep breaths before going on camera."

Mr Haig describes the poignant final hours of the Presidency of Mr Richard Nixon for whom he served as Chief of Staff. "We went together to the Lincoln sitting room, his favourite place. The only light came from a log fire on the hearth."

"He began to talk... I left him there, sitting alone in the dark. When I returned shortly after dawn Nixon was still in the same chair. The gray light of morning filled the room. There was the smell of a fire that had died. On a table lay a stack of books, the memoirs of Presidents."

## Hope of real advantages

At that stage both the Democratic nominee and Mr Jackson may have difficulty. The candidate will need Mr Jackson's help and Mr Jackson will need to show that he can deliver the votes if he is to have the maximum influence in the Democratic Party in the future - always assuming that he does not decide to run as a third candidate.

To get the black vote out Mr Jackson will need to offer the hope of real advantages for the black community. But his help will be counter-productive if those advantages alienate other voters.

He cannot become the Vice-Presidential candidate because that would frighten off the white electorate. Even if it is clear he will not win the offer of a Cabinet post. And, in any case, whoever is the Presidential candidate must be careful about doing any obvious deals.

What the black voters would most appreciate would be Government help to provide jobs and relieve poverty - though here again it would be politically damaging for the Democrats to discriminate in favour of blacks.

Yet Mr Jackson has already seized the political leadership of black America. Given that skill, it is just possible that he might determine the political leadership of the country as a whole by bringing on many more blacks to vote against Mr Reagan. He can never be the king, but he might be the kingmaker.



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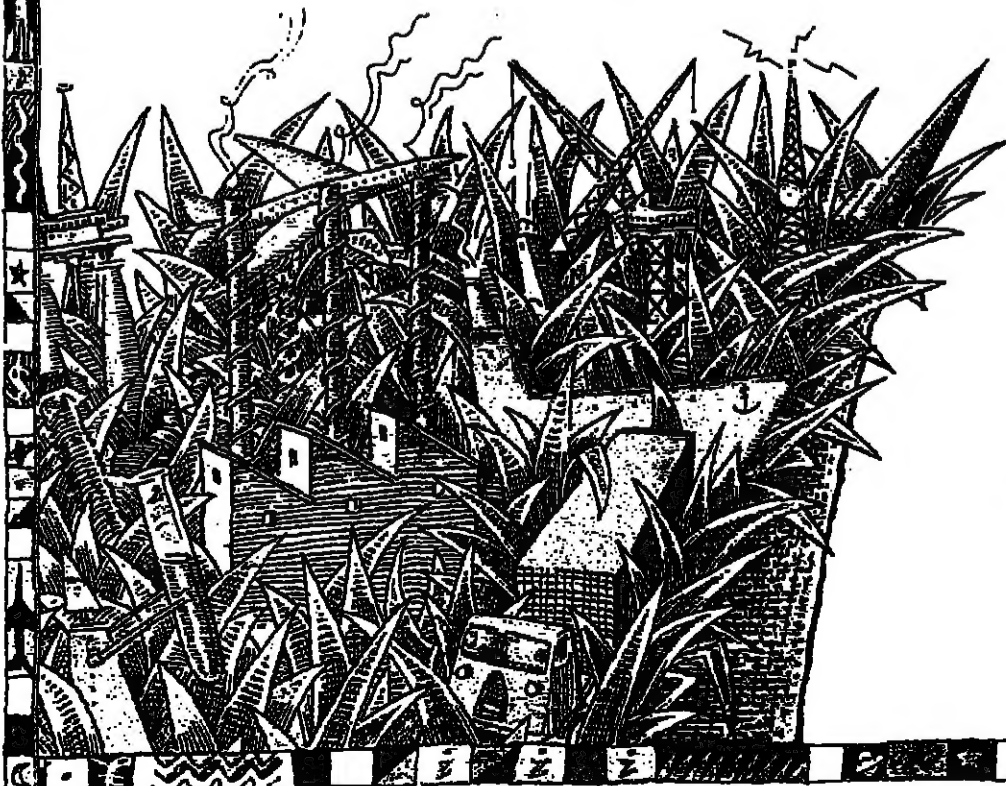


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## SPECTRUM

## Back to firm foundations

When the dust settled after Ronan Point tower block fell down nearly 20 years ago, more than bricks and mortar lay in the rubble. The collapse also spelt the end of the dreams of modern architecture. Roderick Gradidge explains how architects are once more turning to tried and traditional designs

A surprising thing is happening to architecture. Almost by stealth, architects are turning back to more traditional forms. This is a trend which seems to be running throughout the profession from small young practices building their first block of old people's homes to enormous commercial firms building great town centre redevelopment schemes.

For some years now, architecture has been going through a time of stylistic upheaval, largely brought about by a loss of faith in the modern movement, which for a short time was accepted by most architects, though not the public, as a universal style. However, from the time of the collapse of the Ronan Point tower block in the late 1960s public opinion — spearheaded by the conservation societies — has rejected modern architecture, its refusal to consider the needs of people, and the uncompromising manner in which it impinged upon older townscapes.

This failure by architects is reflected in the necessity for local authorities, bowing to the wishes of the public, to issue design guidelines to control architects, and force them to build buildings that at least make a token attempt to conform to their surroundings. Now the developers have discovered that modern architecture is so unpopular with the public that it is no longer salable.

This has meant that architects are having to turn to an architecture which, with the use of more traditional materials and forms, offers a

#### Turning to forms with a more humane vision

considerably more humane vision. It is not a coincidence that this architecture should bear a close resemblance to Edwardian architecture (with its romanticism, its stylistic tolerance and its love of natural materials) since this was the last period of architectural development before the stultifying arrival of modernism.

The first important building in the new style was the Hillingdon Civic Centre built in 1976. As its architect, Andrew Derbyshire, of Robert Matthews, Johnson-Marshall and Partners, explained at a recent symposium held at the Art Workers Guild, The Hillingdon councillors "had very clear ideas about what they wanted their new civic centre to look like. They had had enough of orthogonal concrete and rectilinear, sharp



FULFILLING THE COUNCILLORS' EVERY IDEAL

The Hillingdon Civic Centre, with red brick walls, tile roofs, broken windows and lush green surrounds

things. The people of Hillingdon are self-selected suburbanites — they like living in houses you can 'walk round' — with some greenery, brick walls and a pitched tile roof. The councillors made it clear at our first interview that unless we were prepared to deliver that kind of aesthetic they were not interested in further talks."

The Hillingdon Civic Centre today, with its lush green planting growing round, and in some places sweeping over, the red brick walls, broken bays, under great hipped tile roofs which sometimes come down almost to the ground, seems to have fulfilled every ideal of the Hillingdon councillors.

That it has had a profound effect can be seen in many of the recent local government offices. Gone are the barren concrete expanses, vast sheets of glass and an uncompromising attitude to the neighbouring buildings. Sophisticates may find in buildings like the new headquarters of the Mole Valley District Council too much of *The Wind in the Willows* or Disneyland, with the small windows nestling in red brick walls set over great brick arches under caps of hipped tile roofs emulating oast-houses or disused windmills. None the less, this is an architecture that for once genuinely reflects the taste of the public, who are after all paying for it. The architect has at last found his proper place in society, not as an artist who leads the public into ever more arid spaces but as an ordinary technician who must respond to the wishes of those whom he serves.

It is in housing that this style has become most commonplace and there are times when the style, almost cloyingly twee, fully deserves to be called "Noddy architecture". However, architects like Jeremy Dixon have

#### DECORATIVE DEMARCATION

The Ealing Civic Centre: Covering a multitude of functions



eschewed this cottagey look and have yet managed to retain a traditional style of architecture that fits completely into the London street pattern while keeping to a strict budget.

Perhaps the most remarkable of this type of housing comes from the small firm of Pitchin and Kellow. They have only so far built four small groups of flats and houses, but all of them are in a style which, although original, fits completely into the surrounding south London architecture where they build. This is largely brought about by the use of red diaper brick patterning which contrasts with the stock brickwork of the walls.

Possibly the most interesting is the simplest: a just completed block of studio flats in Church Street, Croydon. Here they have used a dark brown brick which matches the nearby parish church, contrasting it with light buff diaper work which is used wittily to decorate what would otherwise be a dull little box. However it is not just in suburbia that this style occurs. Gavin Stamp has recently noted in these columns that Richard Seifert (of Centre Point) is at the moment building a red brick block with Tudor turrets in Shaftesbury Avenue.

Even more surprising is a block of buildings in Lovat Lane — a very narrow City path. Here another large commercial firm, the Thomas Saunders Partnership, are just completing an office development for the Guardian Royal Exchange, which for some

#### Tradition that fits into London's street pattern

reason they have called "The City Village". Perhaps the name is meant to explain the extraordinary, and not a little vulgar, architecture which combines features of all periods and in all scales, which have been thrown together with undeniable panache, each numbered "house" being in quite a different style. The distinct differentiation of each building was specifically requested by the clients so that each tenant could feel that his building was different from the neighbouring building.

Two other, surprising, but less contentious, small office buildings have recently been built by big architectural firms. By Robert Chitham of Chapman Taylor & Partners is an office block at 15 Bloomsbury Square in a straightforward nineteenth-century London style. Above a rusticated stucco base are two floors of sash windows in London stock brickwork. Above these is a deep stucco frieze with windows which alternate with large decorative plaster cartouches. It is a facade of some subtlety, since an office

block requires that all the floors are of the same height, which of course is not true of the neighbouring houses. Chitham has succeeded in creating a building which suggests a piano-nobile and an attic while retaining even ceiling heights throughout, something that even the great Lutyns did not always achieve. The result is a new building that within a few years will fit completely within the cityscape and become unnoticed, which is what all good architecture should do.

The other office block, right in the City at 68 Cornhill, is designed by Richard Dickinson of Ralph Judd & Partners. It is stone faced and in the classical manner of the buildings on either side of it, and once again within

#### Setting about developing 'a local vernacular'

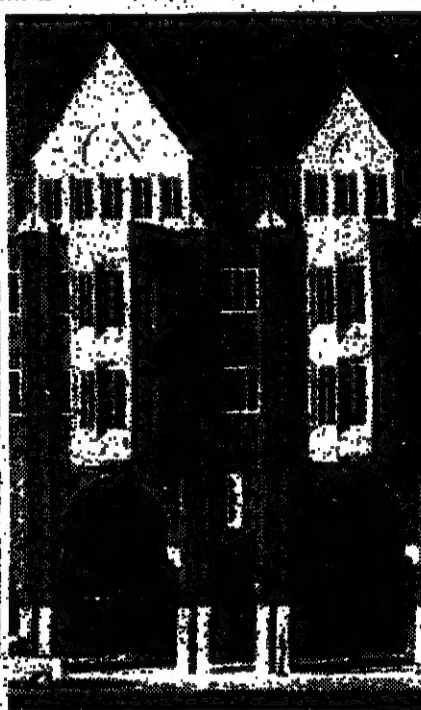
a short time, will fade into the streetline. The style of architecture used is the stripped classicism that came in just before the swing over to modern architecture and is almost as if Dickinson is picking up again just where architecture stopped in 1914.

Another building, the largest and most remarkable of all, also seems to be designed as though nothing had happened in architecture since 1914. This is the Ealing Civic Centre by the Building Design Partnership.

BDP in fact had a highly complex brief for a shopping precinct, a public library, a sports centre, a car park and a parade of shops with offices over had to be incorporated. Very sensibly the architects have decided to demarcate these different functions by putting them under different roofs, and this has led them to a style of architecture reminiscent of G. E. Street at the Law Courts in the Strand. They say they set about developing a "local vernacular", a style that takes in (R. Norman) Shaw, the towers of Pierrefonds and the idea of romanticism from Carcassonne.

The building is in bright red brick with tall slate hipped roofs which sweep up in places into decorative wrought iron points capped with weather vanes. The main lift tower to the car park, corbelled out at the top under pepper-pot roof, pokes above and dominates the low shopping streets of Ealing, as does the surprising octagonal squash courts, perched high up in the air with a corbelled out balcony running round all eight sides. The covered shopping precinct opens out into a market square surrounded by an arched-glazed cloister, from the centre of which a grand staircase rises between two tall towers leading to the first floor library.

On the other side, the square is dominated by a four-storey office



TUDOR TURRETS  
Red brick in Shaftesbury Avenue



block, which does not look like any office block that we have seen for 50 years. Hestline's main feature is a line of bay windows capped with little hipped roofs which grow out from the great main roof. Even the car park has decorative framework to the ventilation openings and is approached by a ramp supported by leaping arches.

There can be little doubt that this is the type of architecture that people have been asking for, for a long time. It will be interesting to see whether it works in the humane way in which the revived Covent Garden does.

The 1880s were one of the most exciting decades of English architecture, which of course led to the greatest of all periods of architecture in England, the 1890s, when Lutyns, Voysey and the whole magnificent school of architects who made up the Arts and Crafts Movement flourished. It is unlikely that the 1980s will prove to be quite so fertile, but it does seem that if there is any architecture in the 1990s, it will be more humane than anyone could have thought possible in the arid 1960s.

moreover...  
Miles Kington

#### A mountain of little molehills

I am risking imprisonment today by printing a series of memos between Michael Heseltine and Margaret Thatcher which have come into my possession. The original documents have been burnt in the office. The mole who leaked them to me has left the country and started a new life, after cosmetic surgery. Only I am left to carry the can. I am ready. Send your heavy boys round, Thatcher.

Heseltine to Thatcher. You have probably heard of this shocking business of a top secret document being left "by accident" in a phone box at Heathrow revealing details of our new, highly confidential radar plan. I'm sure you will agree that we ought to make an example of someone over this. Unfortunately, the espionage boys have no idea who was responsible. Failing a human suspect, could we not prosecute the phone box? Or at least those responsible for it, who I imagine are British Telecom, or whatever it's called this week. Somebody's got to be made responsible. I know how keen you are on people taking responsibility for their own actions.

Thatcher to Heseltine. I think your idea of prosecuting the owners of the phone box is excellent. Presumably someone in British Telecom must have signed the Official Secrets Act. Find out who it is, and bring him to book.

Heseltine to Thatcher. Phone box? Telecom? Prosecute? I'm afraid I'm not with you, Margaret.

Thatcher to Heseltine. I enclose the memo you sent me about the phone box. I request your comments immediately.

Heseltine to Thatcher. I did not send that memo. I have had it examined by my chaps and they are of the opinion that it is the work of a skilled forger, somebody inside the Ministry of Defence. I suppose you know what this means, Margaret.

Thatcher to Heseltine. Stop beating about the bush Michael. What does it mean?

Heseltine to Thatcher. It means that we have a totally new kind of mole inside the ministry. Instead of leaking our documents in the press, he is leaking his own documents into our system, which could cause enormous trouble if he is not found. Leave it to me.

Thatcher to Heseltine. I would like your comments on a new idea for future foreign tours by the Queen. Apparently she was so closely guarded in Jordan and kept behind smoked car windows that nobody actually saw her. She might just as well have stayed at home. Do you think that for other visits to trouble spots, we could keep the Queen at home and only pretend she had gone abroad? It would be much cheaper, and she would be at no risk.

Heseltine to Thatcher. Quite honestly, I think the chances of getting the Queen to do a visit to Israel or somewhere without actually leaving the country are nil. She wouldn't stand for that. Pity — it's a wonderful idea.

Thatcher to Heseltine. Queen? Israel? Staying at home? Have you gone off your head, Michael? What is this all about?

Heseltine to Thatcher. Oh dear I think I have just received another take memo. It is becoming almost impossible to communicate in writing. Do you think in future you could identify your own genuine memos with a small sign? I suggest that you include in each communication the phrase: "I am here, and they're mine, mine mine!" Then I will know it's really from you, Margaret.

Thatcher to Heseltine. I've just had the most extraordinary memo from your ministry, presumably from your mole. I want action immediately please.

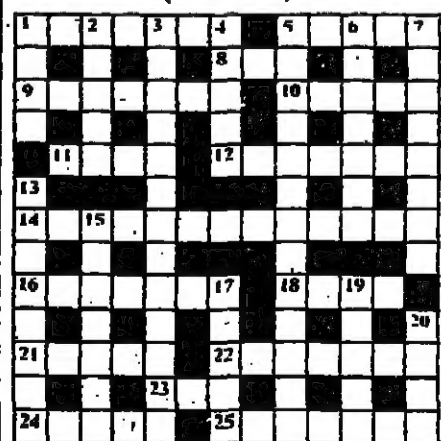
Heseltine to Thatcher. Actually, it was genuine.

Thatcher to Heseltine. Michael, this exchange of memos must now cease. Come and see me at once.

Heseltine to Thatcher. You come and see me, you middle-class monster. I'm far too busy defending this country against its own population to come bowing and scraping to you.

Thatcher to Mole. I am coming to get you, mole. Just you wait.

#### CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 305)



ACROSS  
1 Main person (7)  
5 Shears (5)  
8 Spacewalk (1,1,1)  
9 Work building (7)  
10 Summarize (5)  
11 Swing round (4)  
12 Upper chamber member (7)  
14 Complete form change (13)  
16 Destructive behaviour (7)  
18 Pleat (4)  
21 Bird's nest (5)  
22 Stop up (7)  
23 Final state (3)  
24 Straight edge (7)  
25 Pastoral poem (7)

DOWN  
1 Chublain (4)  
2 Wall recess (5)  
3 Mayflower Puritan (7,6)  
4 Ethiopian emperor (5)  
5 Bracketed (13)  
6 Discovers (7)  
7 Hold in check (8)  
8 Not nearly (8)  
13 Guillotine cart (7)  
15 Wear down (5)  
19 Held fast (5)  
20 Marsh (4)

SOLUTION TO No 304  
ACROSS: 1 Hypocrite 5 Slogane 8 UNO 9 Quorum  
10 Little 11 Akin 12 Riddle 14 Whistleblower  
17 Hundreds? 19 Cove 21 Bistro 23 Avenue  
24 Car 25 Branch 26 Doyley  
DOWN: 2 Young 3 Hardened 4 Numerical  
6 Solid 7 Galilee 13 Crochety 15 Hauler  
16 Bastard 18 Epoch 20 Vogue 22 Ten

#### THE TIMES Tomorrow

START THE WEEKEND WITH THE PAPER THAT INFORMS, STIMULATES, AMUSES AND PROVOKES



Young men and the sea, Southern tip of India

- Travel: On and off the well-beaten track through India
- Sport: Rugby Union — Can Somerset win the county championship? Can Corbiere win his second Grand National?
- Hedgerows: What future for the victims of prairie wars?
- Bernard Levin and the Arts Council cuts
- Family Money: Help for divorced women with taxation problems

PLUS: News from home and abroad; Values on gadgets galore for gourmets; In the Garden — ancient Drink; Eating Out looks at pubs with good food; Review of the month's classical records; Bridge, Chess and prize crossword

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FRIDAY PAGE

Discover Miles Kingdon  
A mountain of little molehills

FIRST PERSON

I'm just a business perk

In common with other feminists manques I agonize a little on how to fill the gap left for occupation on a passport renewal form. You are meant to describe yourself as "housewife" but it would be just as accurate in my case to put "brain surgeon" since my qualifications for both are about equal. "Journalist" is tempting but rather foolhardy since in some of the countries I want to visit it is an open invitation to be detained at the pleasure of whoever is in power. Neither am I the sort of person to capitalize on the situation and write my innermost thoughts for publication on my release. I tried putting "dietician" once but that wasn't allowed.

Actually the truest description would be "perk". Along with the car which is also hard to get started in the morning, I am part of my husband's contract, namely that I, the lady wife, the object of his every waking thought, should be allowed to accompany him on a business trip abroad occasionally.

Perks are a grey area in the business world: everybody has them but it is not considered nice to talk about them. The whole thing smacks of shady deals. "Pss! Want a nice fat chicken no questions asked?" and all that. Being a perk is an ambivalent role. It takes an extremely laid back wife to sail through a life of luxury hotels and jet travel, however brief a hiatus it is in her otherwise mundane existence and not feel a tiny twinge of guilt. Your husband is probably working very hard while you are totally idle. I always forget and refer to it as "our holiday" — an unforgivable crime.

The trouble is that husbands can often feel uneasy too. Mine is half thrilled to have me around and half riddled with puritanical guilt. He keeps urging me to enjoy myself and then dashes cups of coffee from my lips and accuses me of wild extravagance. And there are enough other partakers of perks who so horribly abuse the privilege you feel ashamed to be part of the conspiracy. There is a strong case for abolishing the perks system and simply increasing the salary to accommodate a wife's travel expenses but I have been a wife longer than a perk and know that in real life things don't work out that way.

The best of trips combine play with work

It is a great pity that perkery has this tarnished reputation because I firmly believe that if a husband wants to take his wife with him occasionally, he should be able to do so, particularly if he travels frequently. Unless you have shared the experience of an overseas trip it is hard to believe your husband when he claims that 90 per cent of travelling is tedious and lonely and his stories and enthusiasms mean so much more when you have seen the places he is talking about. It is very easy to feel resentful when all major domestic crises seem to wait until he is away. Even when he returns things can be tense. Exhausted but suspiciously bronzed and reeking of airline Handy Moist Tissue Wipes which barely mask the unmistakable odour of the good life, he sinks into bed to sleep for 24 hours in order to get his strength up to go back to work. As a result, in similar circumstances said mournfully, "He gets the jet, we get the lag". In the cause of domestic harmony alone, I am all for a bit of perkery.

There is the purely practical point of view too that a wife can be a valuable asset on an overseas trip. Having a wife along with you is a sure way of leaving the formal atmosphere of an office and "getting your feet under the table". Many an important negotiation has been clinched round a family barbecue or a trip to see the sights.

The opportunities for us perks to travel present themselves in a variety of ways. It can be a week long jolly at some conference where the hardest thing you are expected to do is to become browner than other wives, or it can be a onerous slog through a dozen different countries where the stamina of your digestive tract and your body clock's ability to adjust come under severe strain. If your husband works hard on these trips your life can be spent in hotel bedrooms waiting for him because you are too shy or too exhausted to venture out on your own. In my experience the best trips from a business as well as personal point of view combine a bit of play with work.

Actually I love being a perk. It reconciles me to my husband's long absences if I have a trip to look forward to. I rather enjoy feeling slightly illicit. I adore abandoning my sobbing children to someone else's tender mercies for a short time — as I tell them, I will love them more when I get back. I get an enormous thrill out of leading a totally unrealistic life of elevators, and hotel room numbers and complicated foreign showers and gin at eight in the morning because it's really 12.30 English time. I get high on the Tevra falling terror of flying and the hair-raising taxis racking from the airport to another strange city which until then has only been a name in a James Bond novel.

Apart from the exhilarating danger of it all it is educational too. After all, how else could I learn to say, "May I have receipt please?" in 12 different languages?

Anne Swain

Geoffrey Cannon on new research into bad diet and lazy habits in the West

Lifestyle with a death knell

MEDICAL BRIEFING SPECIAL



Group at the Royal College of Physicians next month.

For lack of public health measures countless people in Britain died in Victorian days from water-borne infections. The men who built the sewers were not doctors, although some doctors encouraged their construction. In Edwardian days and afterwards, countless children were crippled by deficiency diseases; and, again, the men and women who improved the food that children eat were not all doctors. When public health measures work, people have less need of medicine. If medicine is thought of as a business, preventive medicine is bad for it.

Today, the public health battle ground has shifted. The issues now are what were once called "degenerative diseases" then "diseases of affluence" and now, accurately, "western diseases". These range from the big killer diseases (heart disease, strokes, cancers), to disorders that are usually disabling but not fatal (diabetes, gall-bladder diseases, thinning of the bones, ulcers, eating disorders), and conditions which are embarrassing or disfiguring (tooth decay, constipation, overweight, obesity).

There is general agreement among leading independent scientists that the chief underlying cause of these diseases is life-style: habits any one of which is bad for health, and which in combination are liable eventually to be deadly. In the west, we usually die of diseases peculiar to western society.

This is, above all, because in the twentieth century we have come to eat, not too much food, but the wrong sort of food. We eat far too much "saturated" fat (mostly animal and dairy fat, but also some processed vegetable oils). We eat great quantities of sugar (mostly "hidden" in processed foods). We do not eat enough whole food (wholemeal bread, potatoes, fresh vegetables, legumes and fruit). Smoking, poisonous in itself, also increases the damage done by our other unhealthy habits; as do the age-old habits of eating too much salt and drinking too much alcohol. Two-thirds of the food the average person in Britain consumes is in the form of fat, sugar and alcohol. This means that we rely for nourishment on one-third of the food we eat.

We remain an essentially sedentary population, despite the jogging and aerobics booms. The human body is a machine that improves with use: inactivity makes the effects of bad food worse. We in the west also suffer from a type of stress — frustration, is probably a better word — that may well be damaging. On the whole, western diseases are caused by a combination of bad food, smoking, drinking, and inactivity.

It follows that western diseases are more or less preventable. They may sometimes be irreversible, by a programme of exceptionally nutritious food and graduated exercise. Many British doctors know this. But, rather as in Victorian and Edwardian days, community physicians are well aware that they are working against the vested interests of the medical establishment.

In Britain the need for prevention is not yet well understood by the public. The time will come, and this year's appointment of Sir Douglas Black as president of the British Medical Association is a huge step forward. Other champions of prevention, including Professor Geoffrey Rose and Professor Philip James, will be making important public statements about the prevention of heart disease at a conference called by the Coronary Prevention

Group at the Royal College of Physicians next month. Many of the battles of prevention have been won in America, in the teeth of furious opposition from the food industry, and impediments created by the Reagan Administration. In January the *Journal of the American Medical Association* published the results of the Lipid Research Clinic's coronary primary prevention trial. This proved that lowering the level of cholesterol in the blood — most simply done by means of eating less saturated fat and less dietary cholesterol — reduces the risk of death from heart disease.

This month, the American Heart Association (AHA), the force behind the LRC-CPPT trial, held its twenty-fourth annual conference on cardiovascular disease epidemiology, in Tampa, Florida. For two days, speaker after speaker attested to the doctrine laid down by Professor Jeremiah Stamler in tones of utmost confidence: "Heart disease can be dealt with effectively only through prevention."

Stamler told me that his life's work was official acceptance of a "public policy for the prevention of premature epidemic heart disease". He believes that the tens of thousands of professionals, supported by hundreds of thousands of lay participants in America, have "turned the flank of this huge problem".

Some of the papers presented at the conference were as follows.

Exercise reduces the risk of fatal heart disease. From 1960 to 1981, a study was made of 3,933 initially healthy men aged between 30-64. They were divided into two groups: active and inactive. Over the 21 years, the risk of fatal ischaemic heart disease was almost three times greater for sedentary, than for active, men. This finding supports previous large-scale studies carried out in San Francisco by Professor Ralph Paffenbarger, and in London by Professor Jerry Morris. The AHA study was headed by Professor David Snowdon, of Loma Linda University, California, who found also that "low physical activity and high meat consumption may interact in the production of heart disease". The most impressive finding was that former smokers who were physically active were considerably less likely to die of heart disease as "physical activity may substantially shorten the half-life of carbon monoxide in the blood".

Healthy eating is a family affair in which mothers and daughters take the lead. Five schools in Milbra, California, took part in a project involving teachers, parents, and children at school and at home. Three schools taught healthy eating according to guidelines laid down by the AMA — less fat and cholesterol in the diet; but more polyunsaturated oils. To schools, the "controls" made no changes. The project lasted from September 1982 to June 1983. At the end the amount of unhealthy "low density lipoprotein" had dropped 12 per cent in the mother who had changed their eating habits. The daughters showed an enormous drop of 24 per cent. Dr Thomas Bersot, of the University College of San Francisco, who presented the paper, described the changes in fathers and sons as far less impressive. "A family approach is an effective way of promoting eating behaviour changes which appear to occur first in mothers and daughters," he said.

Hormone replacement therapy increases the risk of heart attacks and strokes. Women in America and now in Britain are frequently prescribed oestrogen during the menopause. The Framingham heart study looked at the results over 24 years of this hormone replacement therapy in 1,334 women aged 51 to 83. Dr Peter Willett said the study showed that the therapy more than doubled the risk of strokes and almost doubled the risk of coronary heart disease. There was no benefit to overall death rate, and an increase in cardiovascular morbidity, especially stroke.

Fat people eat less than thin people. This paradox, first extensively investigated by Professor Peter Wood of Stanford University, was supported by the results of a study presented by Dr George Sopko of St. Louis, Missouri. Dr Sopko found, in a group of healthy obese men, an inverse relationship between calorie intake and body fatness and, in general, that the fatter the men were, the less they ate. (The measurement was made in calories related to body weight.) Dr Sopko also confirmed the findings of Professor Jerry Morris, from British studies, that people who eat a lot are less likely to suffer or die from heart disease. In discussion, Professor Wood pointed out the implication of these findings: that fat people should not eat less, but exercise more.

The drop in deaths from stroke does not have much to do with improved hospital care. Deaths from stroke in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area were studied, comparing 1970 with 1980. Following the American (and British) national pattern, there was an impressive drop in deaths from stroke: from 89.4 per 100,000 in men, to 47.5; from 72.6 per 100,000 in women, to 40.9. But the reason seemed to be control of high blood pressure outside hospital: Dr Gomez-Martin, of the University of Minnesota, said that "improvement of medical care was not a substantial factor in the reduction of stroke mortality". In discussion, Professor John Farquhar of Stanford University suggested that people in the West have tended to consume less sodium and more potassium in the past 50 years, as canning and then freezing, have replaced salting as a means of preserving foods. Salt is a prime cause of high blood pressure and this increases the risk of stroke.

Effective health education in the community reduces the risk of heart disease. Professor Farquhar, head of heart disease prevention unit at Stanford University, which 110,000 people in 10 cities are being encouraged to eat healthy food, stop smoking, and take exercise. In other cities 340,000 people are being studied as "controls" with no special encouragement. After 30 months, Professor Farquhar reported that the "active" people in the two cities were noticeably more aware of the issues; and that their blood pressure and blood cholesterol levels were dropping significantly. He calculated that the net reduction in cardiovascular disease risk factors as 12 per cent so far. "We are on target for a 20 per cent reduction in risk factors by the end of the project," he stated. In Britain this percentage would mean 40,000 deaths a year fewer, from heart disease and stroke combined.

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TALKBACK

Stillborn but still painful

From Margaret Pelling, Oxford Road, Cumnor, Oxford.

I was appalled to learn from your "Comment" column, "Headstone for Baby" (Wednesday Page, March 21) of the crass attitudes of some hospitals and parish councils towards marking babies' graves. I can attest to the comfort brought to parents by being able to put up a headstone which commemorates their baby's life in the same manner as any other human existence.

My second son, John, died when he was nine hours old. His grave, in our village churchyard, is marked by a stone giving full name, date of birth and death and a subdued but fitting epitaph.

This surely demonstrates that there are no "rules" for officials to hide behind. What is possible for one parish council must be possible in the rest of the country, and I would join Hazelanne Lewis in urging officials to adopt more humane attitudes.

From The Rev. Ian W. Williams, The Vicarage, Christ Church Lane, Lichfield, Staffordshire.

I read Hazelanne Lewis' "Headstone for baby" with great interest and no less sympathy.

I was horrified to discover, soon after my arrival in this parish, that stillborn children delivered at a local maternity unit had been buried in my churchyard without ceremony, in unmarked graves.

Last year I was contacted by a mother whose stillborn son had been buried here 10 years ago. It was evident that she had never begun the process of grief. We were able to locate the general area of the burial, hold a brief service, and arrange for a memorial stone.

I feel sure that this provided a very necessary "trigger" for that mother's grief. I am resolved never again to allow stillborn children to be buried in my churchyard in unmarked graves and without ceremony, and to try and encourage parental involvement in any funeral.

I hope that other parents will find a more sympathetic ear from local clergy than they appear to receive from some hospital and burial authorities.

Training poll

From Philip Gaisford, Carmel Building, Temple, London EC4Y 7AT.

The report by Marcel Berlins and Clare Oyer (Friday Page, March 16) raises profound questions about the training of our judiciary, but is sadly lacking in evidence to support its implied preference for the continental system. To ascertain the facts objectively, I suggest that at the very least a poll of prisoners on the Continent should have been conducted by way of questionnaire. I hesitantly suggest the following:

1. Do you feel that your next sentence should be passed by:
  - (a) someone who had had daily experience of putting forward the merits of defendants and urging leniency upon the courts, or
  - (b) a career judge seeking promotion?
2. Would you prefer that your next trial be conducted by:
  - (a) someone with 25 years of fully practical experience of protecting your rights, or
  - (b) the young jack-in-office who put you here?
3. Please indicate your preference for the personal appearance of your next judge:
  - (a) someone who "could be taken for a middle-range business executive", or
  - (b) someone resembling an assistant stage-hand at a provincial repertory company, a retired research chemist, a bus conductor, or other.

Insurance test

From R. A. Barnett, Franchise, Saxtonwood Road, Battle, Sussex.

I do not think that Mr J. R. Spencer (Friday Page, March 23) has properly researched his subject.

I am insured by the Commercial Union (not by choice but because they took over the British General, with whom I was happily insured for many years), and annually since I was about 72 (I am now 80) I have had to produce a doctor's certificate stating my fitness to drive. My last one, in June last year, cost me £19. It is perhaps irrelevant to suggest that this is very high payment for a few minutes' work by anyone on their own premises.

I must admit, to an accident. It occurred in about 1932 or 1933, and it was one in which no one was hurt.

My point is that I am certified as fit to drive because my insurance company insist on it. I would infinitely rather that my certification was a legal necessity due to an act of Parliament, because then I would probably be able to have it done on the National Health.

From Mrs B. Durrant, Chaucer Rd, Cambridge.

I felt compelled to overcome the habit of a lifetime, that of not writing to *The Times*, in order to support the cause of octogenarian car drivers, of whom I am one. Mr Spencer's exposition (Friday March 23) of the case for removing their licences, or at least subjecting them to compulsory tests, is strangely inadequate. Where are his statistics?

I challenge him to provide a study of accidents caused by octogenarians as compared with accidents caused by, say, male drivers of executive cars, aged between 40 and 50 years. Why should only old people who are "demonstrably unfit" be prevented from driving? What about drugs and drink?

Tax privilege

From David G. Lindsay, 36 Orchard Coombe, Whitechurch Hill, Reading.

I am sorry you have seen fit to expend no less than 42 column inches of valuable *Times* space in seeking a special tax privilege for a narrow category of parent, when the space could have been more usefully employed pointing out to the Chancellor that there exists a very substantial gap between the minimum cost of acceptably bringing on a child and the amount of the child benefit. This gap has to be bridged by all, not merely some, parents supporting minor children.

I would have thought that everyone, including the childless, would consider it right and fair that all who support children should be entitled to a child tax allowance of an amount commensurate with the adult single allowance, but reduced by the amount of the child benefit, e.g. a tax allowance of about £1,200 for older children and £900 for younger.

Child tax allowances at these figures would take many poor families out of the tax net altogether and make the whole tax system much fairer as between those supporting and those not supporting children.

Next week Monday Page meets the vegetarian eaters

CORRECTION

The figure of £60m a year given for the value of cigarettes smoked by 11 to 16-year olds in a recent government survey (Monday Page, March 12) was extrapolated from an inquiry among 5,000 children and did not apply only to the subjects of the survey.

THIS FREE OFFER WILL BOWL YOU OVER!

Free spare Kenlyte bowl with all Chef models

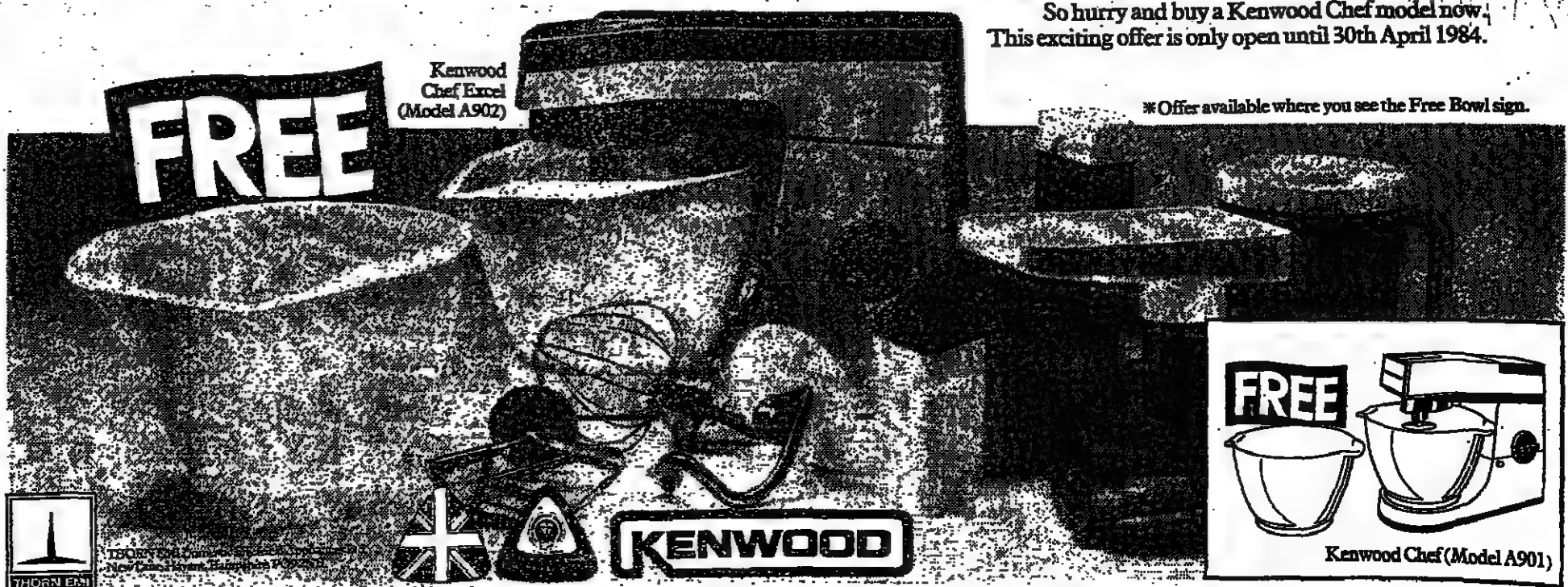
The Chef Excel is already the most comprehensive food preparation system in the world. And now Kenwood are making it even more useful. That's because if you buy an Excel now we'll give you a free spare D-shaped Kenlyte bowl. It's an offer that means you won't have to wash out your bowl when you're preparing different courses. The exclusive D-shaped bowl makes

handling, adding ingredients, inspection and pouring simpler. The Excel also has a 'K' beater, Whisk, Dough Hook, Spatula, Mincer, Liquidiser and High Speed Slicer and Shredder.

What's more, Kenwood are also giving away a standard Kenlyte bowl with any other Chef model you buy. That's the world famous Chef, of course, and the stylish Chef de Luxe with its stainless steel bowl.

So hurry and buy a Kenwood Chef model now. This exciting offer is only open until 30th April 1984.

\*Offer available where you see the Free Bowl sign.





## THE TIMES DIARY

### A melting appeal

Neil Kinnock ought perhaps to drop his pop-video co-star Tracy Ullman in favour of Vera Lynn if he is planning a double act for a sing-song on Monday night at the Queen Elizabeth Hall, London, to raise money for the European elections. The Labour leader is going to bellow "Keep right on to the end of the road" for the benefit of 1,200 pensioners, with accompanying vocals from Barbara Castle and Jack Jones, the former union leader. At the finale, Kinnock will jump, not from a cake, but a 300lb butter mountain. To publicize the scandal of the EEC surpluses, Kinnock will distribute the packs - each in a specially-printed wrapper proclaiming it to be a "bit of the butter mountain" - free to pensioners. Interesting. Since when has the Manchester Co-op - who I discovered donated the packs - harboured a butter mountain?

### Bugs and bores

Viewers of the first political interview ever granted in Soviet Russia to Western television, "War and Peace: The View from Moscow" - to be shown on Channel 4 on Sunday - should not be fooled by the impromptu demeanour of the Russian officials who participate. The Producer, Nick Fraser, tells me that General Starodubov, the Kremlin's nuclear expert, and General Zagladin, the ideology mouthpiece, knew every detail of the interview in advance, his bedroom having been "bugged". Fraser claims to have uncovered the identity of the person who planted the "bug" - an Intourist guide - after a Soviet official made a slip to the programme interviewer, Donald Treford, editor of *The Observer*.

Kremlin watchers keen to know more about Chernenko will be disappointed. Zhores Medvedev, Andropov's biographer, whose brother Roy is under KGB surveillance in Moscow, has refused a request by his publishers Basil Blackwell to write a Chernenko biography "because he is such a bore". Medvedev, who works as a scientist in North London, tells me that Suslov, a member of the Politburo, has the reputation of being the ultimate bore. Chernenko, he says, is worse.

### Seeing red

The cover of the latest issue of the Soviet weekly *New Times* carries the headline "Tories against the unions", and shows a white-haired stocky figure being manhandled while police look on. Unfortunately the man being assaulted is Ian MacGregor, NCB chairman, who was pushed to the ground in the melee.

### Literary prize

Though David Pinner, the author, denies it, the hero of his book *There'll Always Be An England*, to be published in May, seems to be modelled on Dr Stephen Haseler, co-founder of the SDP. Pinner has even dedicated it to Dr Haseler, who has been sent a copy for his approval.

Like Haseler, Pinner's hero Roy Hampton defects from the Labour Party to the SDP. He does so as a Labour MP - a status Haseler never achieved, despite two attempts as a candidate of the party - at Saffron Walden in 1966, and Maldon in 1970. The book ends with defector Hampton pledging to prise Healey, Hattersley, Shore and Callaghan from the Labour Party, while on his Tory hit list are Heath, Pym, Walker, Prior and Gilmour. I wonder.

BARRY FANTONI



"And how high, do you suppose, they rate staying married to Neville?"

### Clearing house

Libel case devotees are to be deprived of the spectacle of one part of the Trafalgar House empire suing another part. Speculation arose when Trafalgar's homebuilding subsidiary New Deal Holdings objected to a report in *The Standard* (half owned by Trafalgar House) which erroneously suggested that some of its houses were built on the site of a contaminated rubbish tip. A swift and fulsome correction suggested New Deal before any writs could fly, but not before the paper's *Standard* editor, Lou Kirby, fired off a scathing memo to his staff, reiterating established policy that any stories about Trafalgar House companies must be cleared with him before publication.

# How Tina changed her wardrobe

Sarah Hogg examines the state of the economy three years after 364 experts attacked the government's basic strategy

were two-a-penny, plentiful, costless - an unintentional naivety that rebounded on the signatories.

A worse mistake was in their timing. March 1981, turned out to be almost exactly the bottom of the slump: since then national output has risen nearly 8 per cent. Inflation, meanwhile, has continued falling, from 13 per cent then to about 5 per cent now. Rather more than coincidentally, by 1981 the government's most glaring mistakes were behind it. While it was possible, that year, to complain that the mix of monetary and budgetary policies was still too tight, there was a new and courageous coherence between the two.

Even with hindsight, however, the major signatories have not much changed their views. They have three overlapping arguments. First, that there has not really been an economic recovery at all; second, that such an upturn as there has been in production has come about because policies were quietly changed; and third, that the government's claim to have reduced inflation permanently will not really be tested until there is a proper recovery.

There is force in all three arguments. Unemployment has

continued to rise, to the government's discomfort; in this sense, the depression has got much worse since 1981. Government policy did change, intentionally or unintentionally, in ways that boosted demand. Consumer spending was stimulated by the unwrapping of credit controls (just as investment is now being artificially stimulated by the phased abolition of capital allowances against corporation tax). And public spending turned out to be higher than planned. All these help to strengthen the recovery, which even so has barely brought the level of output back to its 1979 level. It is true, too, that the test of the government's counter-inflation strategy will only come when the labour market tightens - and we can see what happens to wages.

But whatever the signatories now say they actually meant, they were certainly not understood at the time to be predicting a turnaround to the 3 per cent growth and 5 per cent inflation we saw last year and are likely to see again during this. While it is too soon for the government to claim convincingly that it has conquered inflation, its critics should be wary of confident assertions that it will soon be rising again. And there is just a hint, in their arguments today, of trying to

have the Government both ways: claiming that ministers are under-cover Keynesians while simultaneously complaining they are not Keynesian enough.

Where both sides, by and large, got the economy wrong was in failing to guess what the extreme monetary pressures of 1979-81 would do to industry. On the Government's side, this led to too much optimism on unemployment since 1981 the modest growth it has been aiming for has not been enough to match the rise in industrial productivity, which means it has not been enough to prevent unemployment rising. On its critics' side, this has led to too much pessimism on inflation - that sharp rise in productivity meant costs and prices slowed down unexpectedly fast.

Unfortunately, this common error has done nothing to bring the two sides together. The round-robin has left the Government with a grievance against the economics profession - a more pointed example of its general impatience with the public sector. It is a rare speech by Government apologists on the economic recovery that does not begin by raising an easy laugh at the expense of the 364.

Academics who venture into the political battlefield must be prepared to take what comes. The 364 have made themselves a natural target. It would be nice, just the same, to see more meeting of minds, less defensive trench warfare over what is supposed to be an academic discipline. He who is not-for-me-is-against-me is not a good motto for scientific debate.

David Watt

## A pillar of hope for the EEC

I still believe instinctively that the European Economic Community will resolve the central tangle of the British contribution, the budget and the agricultural policy, and that it will move quite soon to higher things. On the other hand, the immediate evidence to the contrary obviously forces anyone in this precarious state of mind to ask himself whether he is not suffering from that well-known malady, lingering sentimentality aggravated by optimistic delusions.

The case for pessimism is a strong one - stronger even than most people realize. The problem lies less in the actual clash of interests or even the amounts of cash involved (intractable though these are) than in the psychological attitudes that have grown up on all sides during the course of a decade.

What matters so difficult is the weary, and by now quite ineradicable, conviction on the Continent that it is the mean-minded and intolerably insular British who are preventing the Community from living happily ever after, and the equally deep-seated belief of the British that they are being taken for a ride by a bunch of crafty and rapacious peasants.

The tendency of these stereotypes to generate and then justify, all kinds of error and bloody-mindedness is horribly illustrated by the commercial débâcle at last week's summit and since, Mrs Thatcher appears at the counter and grinds on for hour after hour with her old haggle; her partners become tired and irritated out of their wits, having heard it all a hundred times before.

Chancellor Kohl, in an excess of exasperation and auto-ox-like well-meaning, blunders into the carefully arranged French chair. Mrs T belabours his rump and knocks over anything in the shop that he has left intact; the foreign ministers stand arguing in the wreckage, and the onlookers, each from his own point of view, shout: "We told you so".

Why then you may ask, am I so convinced that we are still in business? Partly perhaps, it is sentiment. But it is not all wishful thinking. I can also see some evidence that the main actors really are aware of the wider context of their own national needs.

Chancellor Kohl, for instance, is clearly conscious that he is in grave danger of being ground to bits between the upper millstone of German domestic politics, which requires that the "opening of the East" should be kept well and truly open, and the nether millstone of the present American obsession with the Soviet menace. He cannot risk the possibility of losing US military and moral support, but equally cannot afford to lower the temperature of East-West relations in Central Europe in a way that German public opinion would regard as gratuitous.

In this difficult spot, the best safety is in numbers. If he can enhance the "European", as opposed to the specifically German, dimension of his differences with Washington, he can hope to avoid the worst consequences of American displeasure - especially if that "European-ness" has a Community gloss on it.

President Mitterrand has slightly different preoccupations. He inherits the national fixation about independence from America's suzerainty, but is less inclined than his immediate predecessors for that reason to take an indulgent view of the Soviet

Union. On the contrary, his domestic struggle against the Communists within the French left inclines him to take a tough line. This means extreme concern on the part of the present French government at the possible neutralist direction of German policy. Mitterrand's response to this problem has been to preserve the closest possible links with Kohl, in spite of their ideological differences. But it is fairly clear that he does not regard that as being enough. He has taken out insurance in the form of a counter-balancing strategy, which includes more cooperation with Nato, more development of a European identity, and, also, in principle, a better Franco-British relationship.

Where does Mrs Thatcher stand? In the past, one would have answered: "A good way offshore". She put most of her money firmly on the Anglo-American relationship at the outset of her prime ministerialship, and doubled her bet when the "wet" Carter gave way to the decidedly more congenial Reagan. Europe, in her eyes, was not exactly "written off"; she is a realist and has long accepted that our trade and investment patterns make withdrawal a non-starter. On the other hand, she took a minimalist view of the EEC and was not inclined to sacrifice British interests (narrowly defined) in order to enhance its corporate effectiveness.

Now things look a bit different. The Prime Minister is still, of course, an Atlanticist. But since she started to take a strong personal interest in foreign affairs, after the departure of Lord Carrington and the end of the Falklands War, she has become increasingly aware of the fact that US and British interests do not always coincide precisely, and that there are severe limits to the leverage Britain can expect to exert over an unusually self-willed American administration.

The Grenada affair was a traumatic shock to her and if, as it is said, she told President Reagan that Anglo-American relations would never be the same again, she seems to have described at least her own state of mind with some accuracy. President Mitterrand's pitch to her in their bilateral meeting earlier this month - which was that Britain could make a major contribution to the building of a more distinctive European pillar to the alliance - apparently fell on ears that were tuned almost for the first time to that long wavelength.

The implications of this conjunction of European interests are potentially enormous, of course - for the individual countries as well as the EEC. It is no good expecting a European "pillar" simply to rise from the earth of its own accord. It would have to be built laboriously out of many stones, such as European defence and foreign policy cooperation, that are still very rough-hewn, to say nothing of some, such as an industrial policy, an energy policy, and a transport policy, that have not yet been cut at all.

Nevertheless, these perspectives are beginning to open up, whether we like it or not, and it is because they are that the financial quarrel will be settled. The EEC is not precisely "doomed to succeed"; human history is too littered with folly and accident for one to be sure of that. But strong external forces are pushing its members together, and they may triumph where human frailty has failed.

Philip Howard

## Ten of the best between the covers

We do know, don't we, boys and girls, that lists of best authors are a jolly after-dinner game for those who go in for such things, or an indication that the Book Marketing Council is trying to shift more of its products. Such lists represent no more than the tastes, reading, swank, and cussedness of those who pick them. Nevertheless, we are going to play the game today. We are joining our contemporaries in Europe to select "the ten greatest European writers of all time", without being tiresome by asking what precisely is meant by greatest, pray.

I got into this through the good offices of *Our Paris Correspondent*, bless her little cotton socks. *Life* magazine, a sort of down-market *Frog 7.5*, is organizing a poll of its readers, and these of *The Times*, *Die Zeit*, *La Stampa*, and *El País*. Readers of these publications in the five countries are being asked to nominate the ten greatest writers of all time in Great Britain, France, Germany, Italy and Spain. To be considered, the writers must be dead. For the purposes of the game, Germany includes any German-language literature, so you can have Kafka; but Spanish does not include Latin American literature. I take it that we cannot have Virgil under Italian; and I worry about the Irish. No Americans, or other emigrant Brits, anyway.

The polls are being published in the five countries over the next week. Entries must be sent to me. God help me, by April 20. The results will be collated by our computer, that is me, and the results will be published on May 29, just before the European elections.

We shall then be able to announce not only "the ten greatest European authors of all time", but possibly also detect interesting differences between, for example, German and Spanish perceptions of the best British writers. To make things even more vexing, for the purposes of the game, writer is defined as "creative" writer: this means, apparently, poets, novelists, and playwrights, but no historians or philosophers (which is going to make compiling the German list scaly).

*Life* and some of the others are publishing suggested lists of names, with little boxes beside them so that their readers can tick those they choose, cut out the page, and send it in as their entry. I have enough trouble writing headlines that do not bust, without attempting to decorate this compact basement area with dozens of little boxes. And I take it that readers of *The Times* are grown-up and literate chaps and chaps who can write their own lists without the kiddie's aid of little tables. What you do, if you want to play, is send me your selection of the ten greatest British, French, German, Italian and Spanish writers of all time. Five lists, 150 names in all. If Brits can actually think of the names of ten Spanish or German authors who are not historians or philosophers.

The next thing that happened was that I was asked for my lists. By return telex, in order to help *Life* compile its little boxes. This caused a certain amount of Lit Crit angst and thumb-sucking. But just for example, I give you my German list: Goethe, Schiller, Heine, Thomas Mann, Lessing (not Doris), Kleist, Rilke, Kafka, Hermann Broch (on the strength of one novel that I have yet to finish. *Das Leopold*), though the beginning is marvellous, and Holderlin. For the Spanish list I had to cheat by putting in the unknown author of *El Cuervo*, I am not telling you about my British list, except to say that I include Gibbon as a creative writer, even though he was a historian, and Dr Johnson, even though his best book was written by somebody else. I defy you to get in two Brontë sisters, though you ought to try.

I predict that the British list of French writers will include old names like Froissart, Villon and Ronsard, not even considered on the French list, because of the English school curriculum. I predict that Byron will get a higher rating on continental lists than British. I predict that Shakespeare will win the Greatest in Europe Champagne by a long head from Dante and Cervantes. And I predict that I shall regret the whole damn exercise before the year is much older.

Michael Hamlyn

## David Miller on the England rugby tour likely to be approved today

### Foul play but still a try against apartheid?



England's Rugby Union team in action against New Zealand's All Blacks. The proposed South African tour is vigorously opposed by activists like Chief Abraham Ordia, top, and Sam Ramsamy.

The current issue of *Rugby Post* carries a travel agent's advertisement with the dates of the main fixtures for the England tour of South Africa. There is little doubt that the Rugby Football Union will decide in London today to undertake a trip with implications, good and bad, far beyond the self-interest and parochial reasons of justification.

There are headline protagonists on both sides of the international debate. The Bishop of Liverpool, David Sheppard, and Bishop Trevor Huddleston, 13 years a pastor amid black South African poverty, together with Peter Hain, represent in Britain the religious-political alliance which makes the international sporting boycott its moral backbone. The spurious Freedom in Sport campaign, led by Lord Chalfont, exemplifies the general rugby mood which says to hell with politicians.

The most pragmatic questions are consistently overlooked in the soul-searching about breaking or maintaining the boycott, whether as operated by Commonwealth governments or by the Gleneagles agreement or by international sports federations such as the International Olympic Committee and FIFA. The questions are:

Would the long-term welfare of coloured and black South Africans be improved by a limited renewal of sporting links? Would such sporting relationships be the catalyst to accelerate internal liberalism by the South African government, something external, non-economic, ideological sanctions are unlikely to achieve? Can sport alone keep open a door which, if left closed, could hasten a bloody revolution-andis that what some factions really want?

In the past week I have discussed the imminent tour with black and coloured Africans who hold different views. Among those who are vehemently opposed to the tour are Chief Abraham Ordia of Nigeria, president of the Supreme Council for Sport in Africa, and Sam Ramsamy, chairman of the South African Non-racial Olympic Committee (Sanroc), an external organization financed by the UN. Both men attended last week's Commonwealth Games Federation meeting in London.

It was Ordia who initiated moves

towards the boycott on October 1, 1960, the day Nigeria gained independence from Britain. The Rome Olympics had ended the day before, and Ordia confronted Avery Brundage, then president of the IOC, with the Olympic Charter, claiming its regulations demanded South Africa's exclusion on grounds of racial discrimination.

In 1967, before the Mexico Olympics, Ordia said he would accept South Africa's entry if integrated merit trials were held, even if outside the country in Swaziland or what was then Rhodesia. The Pretoria government refused. I asked why, if he was prepared then to accept such a possible compromise, he now rejects the relatively substantial concession which have been achieved.

Ramsamy answered for him. A former South African teacher, he is confident that the IOC would not act without the approval of the Supreme Council and Sanroc; and there could be no end to the boycott while racial segregation laws were still part of the constitution.

Another argument, albeit anathema to both the church and the UN, does unquestionably exist within black/coloured South Africa. Curnick Mdyesha, president of the black SA Rugby Association and a member of the integrated (previously white) SA Rugby Board, which is led by Danie Craven, is adamant that compromise and change by degrees is the only peaceful hope for a mixed South African society.

Visiting London last week, Mdyesha cited how the board paid full-time coaches for the Association, the 50,000 mixed schoolchildren who attended the board's coaching courses last year, the 17 Western Province coloured school teams in open competition, the white parents who oppose white headmasters attempting to exclude

pupils from mixed play, the national under-13 championship in which blacks beat whites, the 26 new integrated cricket clubs formed since December, 1983.

Mdyesha is sceptical about the UN anti-apartheid slogan. "No normal sport in an abnormal society". What society is normal, he asks. He points instead to the 15 per cent coloured and black pupils in private schools who constitute a tiny but significant 0.75 per cent of the school population (even that was unthinkable a few years ago), and to the black students encroaching the Afrikaans stronghold of Stellenbosch University. "If sport is open, how can the Group Areas Act [which restricts inland travel for non-white South Africans] remain a permanent reality? The moderate blacks, coloureds and whites must get between the black and white extremes to prevent the explosion," he says.

Duggie Dyers, a coloured Springbok rugby selector, is even more emphatic, claiming that 80 per cent of coloured sport is integrated, not 1 per cent as alleged by Peter Hain on this page on Wednesday. Referring to the incident of Colin Croft, the West Indian cricketer removed from a whites-only railway carriage, Dyers says: "I would be prepared, for the moment, to travel home with the devil himself, because the integrated rugby or cricket match I have attended will determine, ultimately, how soon the trains are changed. Sport has shown the government how to move; it has opened the hotels and restaurants."

Forsaking the substantial financial advantages to be gained from his builder's trade, Dyers instead risked being labelled an Uncle Tom "to encourage my people to be reasonable instead of spreading antagonism and violence. I stand totally against any form of apartheid but I am not prepared to pin my

hopes on people outside South Africa. There is a new order of whites; the old order will die out. The England rugby tour will make little difference. An integrated South African Olympic team would be one of the greatest in the world. What would that do for our people?"

What will be the effect of an England tour? Sir Arthur Gold, chairman of English Commonwealth Games Council, will not accept any political manipulation of the code of conduct but yesterday he sent a letter of protest to the Rugby Union, as required.

Sir Arthur stresses that England can be suspended or expelled only for "gross non-fulfilment" of the Gleneagles Declaration, but he admits that the rugby tour will inevitably draw hostile propaganda against all English sport.

Neil Macfarlane, the Minister for Sport, believes the next few weeks "will be very difficult for Commonwealth sports". He is worried not only for the Commonwealth and Olympic games but for rugby itself. He is committed by Gleneagles to "advise" against the tour, but no more.

Cyril Kobus, the black general manager of the fully integrated National Professional Soccer League, South Africa's major sporting event for predominantly black crowds, echoes his rugby colleagues when he says: "We would welcome readmission to international football if that were possible, irrespective of social and political conditions."

Undoubtedly sport offers a major influencing force - within the country. The world sporting bodies could set rigorous terms, down to school level, as the price of selective readmission. The Rugby Union is probably right to go but for the wrong reasons, since it is demanding no concessions. Any moral righteousness is for its own members rather than black people.

has been seen by the Sikhs as a deliberate move against Sikhs rather than just against rebels.

The Golden Temple has been the focal point of both the peaceful agitation and extremist action. Many fugitives from the police are sheltered inside it. When a deputy inspector-general of police was shot on the terrace outside the temple, his assailant was seen to run back into its sanctuary.

There are therefore those who say the temple should be raided by the forces of law and order. If the government does raid the temple, reaction will be explosive throughout Punjab, in areas where there are Sikhs - in the rest of India, such as Delhi, and even abroad in London, Melbourne and Toronto. The tension in Amritsar is such that tourists are staying away in droves. Some embassies are advising their nationals not to visit Punjab at all. One lone group of Americans visited the temple last week. They were escorted about the atmosphere of the holy place, and visited it at night under a full moon. "But," said Mr Flave Peters from Arkansas, "those men with the guns... it was eerie."

## Prayers and pistols at the great Sikh temple

Amritsar. The Golden Temple in Amritsar, the most holy shrine of the Sikh religion, has become an armed camp. At one entrance a well-built warrior stretches in a chair, nursing an old but lovingly polished twelve-bore shotgun. At doorways around the temple buildings, men with dense turbans, bristling beards and bare legs carlessly handle Lee Enfield 303 rifles. Enthusiastic young men lean nonchalantly on sterling sub-machine guns, or SLRs.

The militant leaders at the temple, of whom the most prominent is Sant Jarnail Bhindranwale, sport .45 calibre revolvers or Browning 9mm automatic pistols - bandoliers of ammunition around their necks.

What happens if the government tries to enter the temple to arrest the alleged terrorists hiding inside? "We shall," says Sant Bhindranwale, smiling, "make them chew iron lentils."

It is as though Westminster Cathedral were patrolled by men with Tommy guns and police from Scotland Yard were prevented from entering. Sandbag redoubts guard the roofs of the lodging houses surrounding the golden temple,

others reinforce staircases vulnerable to infantry. Brick strongpoints with rifle loopholes have appeared among the domes and kiosks of the front entrance of the temple.

It is no surprise to find that the Sikhs are armed. Even at the best of times Sikh warriors who have dedicated their lives to the militant support of their religion - are found in Sikh temples. Usually, though, they are armed simply with cutlasses and spears. Gurm Gobind Singh - after Guru Nanak, the founder of Sikhism, the man who gave Sikhism its most distinctive characteristics - laid down that all Sikhs must always be armed.

The Sikhs, too, are used to violent resistance and to martyrdom. Early leaders were executed by the Moguls and Pathans. The Sikh kingdom built by Maharajah Ranjit Singh was the last area of independent India to fall under British rule.

But the embattlement of the Golden Temple also represents a strain of paranoia in the Sikh psyche. Some regret that at the time of independence when the Muslims got a separate state, the Sikhs did not get an independent "Khalistan". Since then, Sikh activists have feared that the distinctive Sikh

identity would be swallowed in an ocean of Hinduism.

Harninder Singh Sandhu, a student zealot, an ardent follower of Sant Bhindranwale and general secretary of the recently banned Sikh Student Federation, ticked off the four fears. Sikh students were being seduced by Marxism. They were being led astray by "luxurious living" - including the use of drugs, some were turning to Brahminism and some were being tempted into the evil of Nirankari, a Sikh heresy which rejects the precepts of the gurus.

Curiously, the residents of the richest agricultural state in the Union, who provide the Indian armed forces with a disproportionate number of their best soldiers and who are on average better-off than the rest of the population, believe that they are victims of discrimination. The sharing of Punjab's river water with other states, for example, was regarded as an attempt to deprive Punjab farmers of their most vital asset. The Sikh agitation which began 19 months ago has accordingly become more and more bitter. Every move by the government to put down terrorist activities





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## CLEANING UP POLICE POWERS

The Commons committee stage of the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill ended yesterday. It is claimed the number of sittings the standing committee devoted to the Bill has not been matched before. The Bill deserved the honour. It redefines and adjusts the law in respect of powers that are required by the police for the prevention and investigation of crime, purposes most people grant a high priority. But the exercise of these powers renders people, who may or may not be criminal, vulnerable to invasion of their liberty and abuse of their rights. Avoidance of excessive powers and safeguards against the abuse of powers are no less important than the grant of the powers themselves. A balance has to be struck and it must permeate the whole structure from first principle to last detail.

The balance is not simply a matter of getting the drafting right where the powers of police or the rights of suspects are defined. In the daily exercise of their duties police officers are likely to be more influenced by practice and custom than attentive to the letter of the statute. To that extent "clean" policing is a function of supervision and management, which underlines the importance of the many passages in the Bill which introduce recording or reporting procedures and implicate senior police officers in the decisions to be taken.

For the same reason the statutory codes of conduct, the promise - still untested - of systematic tape recording of interviews with suspects at police stations; the more independent character of the arrangements for dealing with complaints against the police; and - outside the Bill - the new prosecution service for which legislation is intended next session: all these contribute to the essential balance that is being struck between the effective confrontation of crime and protection of the citizen against abuse at the hands of the state's sanctioned instrument of civil force. The present state of the law is inexcusably incoherent and dubious for so sensitive an area. The Bill as it now stands marks a large improvement, but there is still detailed work to be done.

The practice of detaining suspects for questioning is put on a statutory basis for the first time. Twenty-four hours at a police station before charge or release is put forward as the normal limit, 96 hours in exceptional cases. An important concession was made in committee. The review before a magistrate's court with the detainee present and represented, which the Bill stipulates before 36 hours have elapsed, will have to be repeated before the 96 hour limit is reached. Two hearings instead of one. The minister would not however agree to bring the first hearing forward from 36 to 24 hours, which, as measuring the normal interval for detention without charge, would be the appropriate point at which to implicate the court. His reasons were administrative: it would overload the magistracy and prematurely interrupt police investigation.

Those reasons are substantial but not compelling when set against the dangers of abuse attendant on detention for questioning without access to a court. In some cases of serious crime the police will not be able to bring their investigation to the point of charge or release within 24 hours of arrest. They should be enabled to continue, but not without the warrant of a court.

Another contentious detail concerns what the Bill calls intimate searches, that is the examination of the mouth and genital and anal passages. These are attested passages of occasional criminal concealment for drugs, weapons and other evidence of crime. Last session's Bill made provision for examination of these orifices, preferably by a doctor but otherwise by a police officer of the same sex as the suspect, both for weapons and for evidence of crime. The resurrected Bill confines the purpose of the search to articles that might be used to cause physical injury to the suspect or others.

The only Conservative revolt at the committee was by those who opposed that limitation of the power of intimate search. The minister conceded that there is a price to be paid for it in terms of undetected criminal concealment, but argued that the wider power was not compatible

with the requirement that the examination be normally done by a doctor, since the necessary cooperation of doctors would not be available in the absence of consent, save for the removal of potential instruments of injury or death; yet a practice of this form of search by police officers might cause inadvertent injury to suspects, especially if they resisted, and would raise in the public mind a prejudice against police treatment of suspects which might come to affect more important duties than that one.

The minister is right. People are not yet so inured to crime and the fight against it that they will comfortably contemplate licensing the police for that sort of handling. But the Home Secretary should follow his logic through and, at some small further cost to convenience, remove all exceptions to the rule that this is a job for a doctor.

Then there are journalists. They come in where the Bill confers new general powers of search under warrant for evidence of serious crime on premises where no suspicion falls on the occupier. This was the chief battleground of last session's Bill. Clergy, lawyers, doctors, other "caring professions" combined to protest the sanctity of the personal records made in the performance of their respective duties, and won exemption. Representatives of the press, suspecting they might not qualify as a caring profession, hastened to make out that protection from forced disclosure of their confidences was no less a matter of public interest. The Home Secretary obligingly wrote into his Bill a handsome exemption for "journalistic material".

No sooner was the expression down in cold print than the watchdogs of the press began to shiver at a new set of implications. There was an expression that the courts might feel called upon to define. The journalist might lose his safe and sufficient status as common man - tribune of the people, one with the people. Definition implies classification, classification implies privilege, privilege loss of privilege, restriction licensing, licensing silencing. The long-suffering Home Secretary is even now considering how next to satisfy these nervous clients.

## THE NIT-PICKERS' REVENGE

With the publication of the Finance Bill yesterday, a little of the gilt begins to peel off the Chancellor's gingerbread. Budget Day is a time for overall impressions, and Mr Nigel Lawson managed - to the delight of his backbenchers - to present an image of economic vigour and reforming zeal. This triumph carried him confidently through his post-Budget cross-examination by the Treasury committee of MPs on Wednesday.

But the successive stages of the Finance Bill are a time for detail - for the nit-pickers' revenge. Such a lengthy Finance Bill provides plenty of scope. There are, for a start, wholesale changes in corporation tax to be discussed. The abolition of capital allowances, and the lowering of corporation tax, were well-received by industry (rather better received, it seems, than the Government expected).

While the corporation tax changes are at least clear and strategically sensible, more general questions mark hang over the Chancellor's changes in personal tax. Naturally, the abolition of tax relief on life assurance premiums will attract some parliamentary trouble -

but life assurance companies have by now swallowed their bitter pill, and there are no major new shocks for them in the Finance Bill. (The bill does however make it clear that the new rules are being drawn very tightly, so any change in a pre-Budget policy will tip it out of the tax-protected category). There will be a parliamentary row, with more justification, over the extension of the composite rate of income tax on interest from building societies to banks: it is a huge restriction of freedom of choice for non-taxpayers.

And this concern touches on the most obvious question about the Budget. While seeking to restore industrial incentives, encourage wider share ownership and begin the painful task of rationalizing income tax, does it do enough for society's have-nots, the unemployed, the disabled, the elderly, the poor? Half this question cannot be answered, because this year the Government is leaving all announcements on social security benefits until June. But it is fairly clear that the Government has chosen to help those on low incomes by raising tax thresholds, not benefits, more than

inflation - and raised some doubts by doing so.

The Chancellor has angered pressure groups for the retired by concentrating his tax cuts on the single and married tax allowances, leaving age allowances untouched in real terms. This is justifiable: it enabled him to give most help to families with children, stuck in the worst of Britain's poverty traps. In hard cash, however, an increase in allowances gives most to the high-paid, which is why an increase in child benefit, which goes also to families outside the tax net, is widely supposed to be the most cost-effective way of relieving poverty. Mr Lawson's answer to that, delivered to the Treasury committee this week, was that child benefit is an indiscriminate weapon too: only 15 per cent of the unemployed, for example, have children of child benefit age.

This remains a critical area of government policy where its strategy is far from clear. A small token of humanity was given yesterday; along with the Finance Bill came the announcement that the extension of VAT to building alterations will not apply to conversions for the disabled. The bigger issues of social policy remain unresolved.

## THIS GAME IS NOT THE ONLY THING

Questions of international sport have become complicated and difficult. The English Rugby Football Union meeting this morning to decide whether to accept an invitation to tour South Africa should find itself discussing problems of politics and morality and peering at future consequences in fields other than rugby. It is to be hoped that at the end it will decide not to send a team.

To rehearse some familiar arguments, external opponents of apartheid have found in a sports boycott their most effective weapon. The refusal of international sportsmen to play games with white South Africans has awakened their conscience as nothing else has. It has also produced changes: there is now a degree of integration in most sports, including the upper echelons of rugby. This is taken by some to be an argument in favour of relaxing boycotts and allowing tours.

The fact is, however, that apartheid remains; the South African system is still uniquely abhorrent in that it gives the force of law to prejudice; it is

based on the theory that some men may be adjudged less than full citizens because of the colour of their skin. This is insulting to the world.

Informed political commentators will tell the English Rugby Football Union that changes are taking place in South Africa now and more must take place in future if violent chaos is to be avoided. The question is whether the present tentative moves are to lead to a real and acceptable sharing of power or whether they are merely a redrawing of the boundaries of apartheid. This is a time when international pressure should be maintained and not relaxed.

There will be some at the English Rugby Football Union meeting who will argue that all this is not their business; they merely wish to kick a ball around with a lot of friendly people. But the truth is that they are in the business of politics, willy-nilly. One of the consequences of a tour will be that Mr Piet Botha, the Prime Minister, will claim, implicitly or explicitly, that this is a sign that the world approves of his efforts at reform. The

further implication is that he need do no more.

Another consequence will be that Britain's international relations in other sports are likely to be disrupted if a rugby tour takes place. In particular, African nations might stay away from the Olympic Games later this year and attempt to exclude England from the Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh next year. These threats are illogical - rugby is not an Olympic sport and the Commonwealth Games involves entirely different people - but they are real.

It needs to be emphasized that whether to tour is a matter for the English Rugby Football Union to decide. The Government has advised against the tour, as it was bound to do under the Gleneagles agreement, but there can be no question of any compulsion. British citizens are free to behave abroad in a way that embarrasses others, black or white, as they wish. All that can be asked is that this morning's meeting remains aware that larger issues are involved. The rugby pitch is not an island, entire of itself.

## Time for breaking the EEC mould?

From Mr Alfred Latham-Koenig  
Sir, In your editorial of March 22 ("A drama, but not a crisis") you write: "Mrs Thatcher must hang on until she gets a solution that meets Britain's essential interest." Yes, but not until the cracks in the European construction widen to the point of threatening the whole edifice. She must above all modify her negotiating style, which profoundly irritates and antagonizes her EEC partners.

True, the French also pursue their national interests with undivided vigour. But they do it with greater elegance and less stridency and cleverly dress those interests, whenever they can, in *communautaire* clothes. They also appear to show a greater sense of European history and to pay more attention to their partners' views and idiosyncrasies.

What Mrs Thatcher lacks above all is having at her side, instead of a competent and subservient tax lawyer in her own mould, a Foreign Minister more in the mould of Lord Carrington who, during his tenure at the Foreign Office, earned the respect of his European colleagues for his statesmanship and breadth of vision.

Yours faithfully,  
ALFRED LATHAM-KOENIG,  
11 Bigwood Road,  
Hamstead Garden Suburb, NW11.  
March 27.

## Hayward as 'showcase'

From the Secretary of the Royal Academy  
Sir, I would not wish in any way to belittle the remarkable achievements of the Hayward Gallery under Arts Council management, or to question the valid points made by Mr Bryan Robertson (March 27), but he surely goes too far in claiming that it is the "main official international-calibre exhibition centre for London, and as such our only equivalent to the Grand Palais in Paris for shows arranged with foreign governments."

The record speaks for itself: over the past two years alone the Royal Academy has put on exhibitions at Burlington House in cooperation with Japan, the People's Republic of China, the United States of America, France, Nigeria, Spain, the Netherlands and Italy.

In some cases these were "official" exhibitions illustrating the culture of a particular country. In others, the Royal Academy mounted them in partnership with national institutions (the Prado, the National Gallery of Art (Washington), the Grand Palais, etc.).

Of course, Burlington House is not an "official" centre, in that it receives no revenue grant from the Arts Council or any other public source. But it has enjoyed the advantage of government indemnity for each of these exhibitions, and in a number of cases it has worked in amicable partnership with the Arts Council.

No, the real case for retaining the Hayward and the Serpentine Gallery under Arts Council management would seem to lie rather in their unfailing and unrivalled support for contemporary art in this country. I am, Sir, yours etc.,  
PIERS RODGERS, Secretary,  
The Royal Academy of Arts,  
Piccadilly, W1.  
March 27.

## Posts at La Scala

From the Artistic Director of La Scala, Milan  
Sir, I take the liberty of writing to you in order to give first-hand and clear information about a report referring to La Scala (March 23).

The report suggests that the appointments of both Mr Abbado and Mr Muri were consequent on the support of two political parties represented on the board of administrators of La Scala. The level of such a decision and of such musicians is totally above parties. This is proved by the unanimous vote which the board of administrators of La Scala gave to both appointments.

Regards,  
CESARE MAZZONIS,  
Artistic Director,  
Teatro Scala,  
Milan,  
Italy.  
March 27.

## Local radio in France

From Mr Brian Lewis  
Sir, Professor Day is naive in writing (March 22) that local radio in France carries no advertising and is supported by voluntary contributions.

It is true that the law of 1982, which created the High Authority authorized it to license private radio stations, of which there may eventually be 1,000 in France. It is also true that it prohibits them from advertising and that they are financed by supporters' associations, but the contributions to the associations, far from being voluntary, are for services rendered and every local station has its rate card.

To be brief on a subject with the

## Benefits for low-paid

From Mr Brian Dodgeon  
Sir, The article (March 14) explaining the Budget increases in tax allowances wrongly concluded that these give more cash to the lower-paid at the expense of higher-rate taxpayers.

The increase of £360 in the married man's allowance means an extra £2.08 a week to married men and women with incomes between £3,155 and £17,755, because they are allowed £360 more income free of tax at 30 per cent. But for those earning over £39,155 it means an extra £4.16 a week, because (quite apart from the alterations in the higher-rate tax bands) they are allowed £360 more income free of tax at 60 per cent. At the other end of the scale, lone parents and married men earning

## Keeping defence enterprise in trim

From Admiral of the Fleet Lord Hill-Norton  
Sir, Many of the arguments, and consequent proposals, for reorganizing the management of defence, published by the Defence Secretary in his Open Government Document 84/03, will be welcome to those of us who have struggled to make the present system work to the best advantage of our national security.

But Field Marshal Lord Carver's letter (March 21) and his explicit warnings of where these proposals go too far deserve warm support. I would emphasize in particular the danger in supposing, as the Defence Secretary's paper appears to do, that there is some natural division between policy and management or between the so-called "support functions" of personnel and logistics on the one hand and operational capability on the other.

For the raising, training, equipping and deployment of the front line of all three Services might appear to the inexperienced to be a "management" function, but their subsequent operational posture depends entirely on how well, or ill, that function is performed. It demands, as Lord Carver rightly points out, single Service staffs adequate in numbers, experience and skill to support and advise the professional head of each Service if he is to be capable of meeting the centrally stated requirements of Government defence policy.

This is a very real and related point concerning the function of the Vice-Chiefs of Staff, whose posts the Defence Secretary expects to lapse. These three men are by common

consent the hardest worked members of their Service boards and are responsible for drawing together the whole wide span of what I described above as the apparent management function. It is illusory to suppose that their work will somehow disappear, for it is neither self-generated nor composed of "each other's washing".

Even if it were thought expedient, for the sake of some apparent tidiness, to abolish these posts, officers of similar seniority and experience would have to be appointed to the staff of the CDS. It is lower down the organizational tree that important savings could be made by a reorganization on the general lines proposed. Some posts at the two-star level (uniformed and civilian), with many more at the one-star and "red colonel" level, should at once come to hand, especially in the staffs dealing with plans, commitments and operational requirements.

The whole defence enterprise is, as Lord Carver says, a highly sensitive balancing act, and it is to be earnestly hoped that the Defence Secretary will not allow the balance to be falsified by paper solutions which may look neat as an organism, but take insufficient account of the real difficulty of successfully running an £18bn-a-year business employing half-a-million people, on which the very lives and the very way of life of our fifty-five million people in the end depend.

I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,  
HILL-NORTON,  
House of Lords.

## Miss Tisdall's case

From Dr H. G. ApSimon  
Sir, Miss Tisdall has done two things. She has taken a copy of a document belonging to her employer, the content of which her employer wished to keep secret, and given it to someone else; and she has caused the publication of material classified as secret.

The first offence is one known to almost every employer. For there are civil remedies. (Though, in the case of an isolated offence, even the punishment of dismissal might be seriously contested as excessive at a hearing before an industrial tribunal.)

The second offence is one that, if committed, was certainly also committed by *The Guardian*. The fact that the editor of *The Guardian* has not been prosecuted for it is an admission, tacit but compelling, that the material was not in fact secret and so should never have been classified as such. (Had Miss Tisdall been prosecuted solely for "publication" of the document that *The Guardian* did not publish, that would have been a different story. But, by all the accounts that I have seen, this was not so.)

This raises the question (and I ask it not rhetorically but genuinely seeking the answer): does the mere fact that someone with appropriate authority classifies a document as secret automatically make that document in fact a secret one? Surely a necessary condition is that he acted reasonably in so purporting to classify it?

In other fields judges have held that some putative decisions by officials, whether they be policemen or secretaries of state, have been unreasonable and so, not being made in the proper exercise of an authority, have been without authority. If the same test of reasonableness

does not apply to the classification of state documents then some interesting, and alarming, consequences are apparent.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant.  
H. G. APSIMON,  
Bucklers' Lane,  
Old Basing Road,  
Frimley, Surrey.  
March 25.

From Mr Jonathan Sayeed, MP for Bristol East (Conservative)

Sir, Section 2 of the Official Secrets Act is again under attack, but its critics must recognize the damage caused to the quality of government decision-making by unauthorized disclosure of confidential information.

Civil servants are in a position of trust, have access to sensitive information by virtue of their work, and are employed to serve a democratically elected government.

It is an arrogant denial of the process of democracy for civil servants to don the mantle of arbiter of the public good. If they feel so strongly about a matter they have the opportunity to transfer, leave the service or even stand for Parliament.

But there is another deeply disturbing implication of this betrayal of trust. No government will fully investigate the many options inherent in any policy decision unless it is confident that its deliberations will remain private. The result of "leaking" is that documents have narrower circulation and fewer people are consulted. "Leaking" is an obstacle to better informed government and thus leads to poorer government.

I wonder whether those who "leak" realize the damage their disclosures cause their fellow citizens. Yours faithfully,  
JONATHAN SAYEED,  
House of Commons,  
March 26.

## In pursuit of truth

From the Reverend Michael Burgess, SSC  
Sir, Sweeping generalisations are usually way off target, immoderate and lacking in substantiated evidence. That said, can there be any fear of contradiction when I say that journalists as a breed are the biggest crowd of self-righteous hypocrites in contemporary society?

Quite apart from the Olympian tone with which they attempt to drape their every pronouncement, even on matters where they possess the merest fraction of a half-truth, their attitude toward the Christian Church in general has become boringly hysterical. What truth do they think to pursue?

The Poulter affair has brought forth the latest outburst of indignant journalistic wind. Even you, Sir,

write that "The Church would be very unwise to try to put that point across by making a public example of invidiously selected and identifiable individuals" (leading article, March 23).

Pray, Sir, is this not the daily behaviour of these self-appointed "guardians of freedom" toward those luckless individuals who have the misfortune to fall into their sight?

It'll become the profit-seeking media, largely involved with titillating trivia and character assassination, to lay down the law about the weightier matter of fair play. Rather, it is a matter of "Journalist, heal thyself!"

Yours truly,  
MICHAEL BURGESS,  
Church of the Annunciation,  
Brynmaston Street, W1.  
March 23.

constant variations efficient advertising agencies develop, there are three main forms of advertising:

1. Broadcasting a well known commercial jingle and, instead of the company name, an announcer goes on to learn how to purchase furniture on the easiest possible terms telephone. "Or announcers tellously repeating 'The time by my watch is now...' Or by a service to the public with local shopping tips.

2. By selling programme time to local political parties, or authorities or banks, by commercial houses sponsoring programmes which they think will please a particular public, and it is of course open house for record companies.

3. Preparing programmes in the form of cassettes for products with blank space for the comments of the local critics, which are read from accompanying texts.

The High Authority is perfectly aware of what is going on, but to stop it requires proof in the form of declarations from the statutory body which supervises advertising standards, which does not have the funds to undertake the task. There is, however, one station which is kept in comfort by voluntary subscriptions - Frequency Guy - here in the heart of Paris.

Yours faithfully,  
BRIAN LEWIS,  
39 Avenue Victor-Hugo,  
75116 Paris.

parents on well below average incomes lost anything up to £10 a week. These cuts were billed as being "essential" to reduce the social security budget by £185m.

Such figures now seem tiny in comparison to the amounts given to the wealthy on Tuesday - £360m in abolishing investment-income surcharge, £450m in changes in stamp duty for shareholders and those with mortgages over £25,000, £1,200m in reduced corporation tax and £50m in reduced capital transfer tax.

No one should be in any doubt, this was a Budget for the higher-paid at the expense of the lower-paid.

Yours faithfully,  
BRIAN DODGEON,  
National Council for One Parent Families,  
255 Kenilworth Road, NW5.  
March 15.

## Qualified ban on heavy lorries

From Mr Dave Wetzel  
Sir, The Chairman of Safeway recently criticized in your columns (March 24) our proposals for a night and weekend heavy lorry ban as being bad for both the environment and economy of London.

Nothing could be further from the truth. Originally the GLC set up the Wood inquiry to investigate a complete 24-hour ban of all heavy lorries in London. As a result of the Wood inquiry team's report the GLC is proposing to ban heavy lorries at night and weekends.

We are also considering many important exemptions from the ban: Major roads with no housing; Saturday mornings; the new quiet heavy lorry or heavy lorries fitted with a hush kit; those industries and firms which would be seriously disrupted by the ban.

The effect of this ban will be:

1. The 50 per cent of all lorry journeys which have no business in London but use us as a through route at night and weekends will be excluded.
2. Many heavy lorries which have to use London will be modified to become more quiet.
3. Many heavy lorries will stick to major roads with no housing instead of taking short cuts through our local residential streets.
4. All of London's roads will witness a dramatic reduction in heavy lorry movements at night and at weekends.

I believe this reasonable policy will be welcomed by all Londoners and will only be opposed by the narrow selfish interests of big business.

Yours for socialism,  
DAVE WETZEL, Chairman,  
Transport Committee,  
Greater London Council,  
Members' Lobby,  
The County Hall, SE1,  
March 28.

## Bishop's move

From the Bishop of Norwich  
Sir, I walked into the City of London today, leaving Liverpool Street station at 12.52pm. Taking the longer route, I passed the Temple where, amidst a mass of daftoids, the great magnolia was just breaking into bloom.

I continued along Victoria Embankment, giving a gracious and thankful nod across the water to Mr Livingstone for providing us all with a noiseless, fussless, business day of health and exercise, and I wheeled into the Palace of Westminster at 1.37pm.

I usually allow 35 minutes to Tube, and 40 minutes by bus, down to door: so 45 minutes by foot to show a party of Norfolk schoolchildren round this bastion of democracy is a small price to pay. Yours, etc.,  
MAURICE NORVICH,  
House of Lords,  
March 28.

## VAT on building

From Mr Oliver Barratt  
Sir, Lord Rosebery and Mr George Ferguson (March 20) correctly assess the cumulatively calamitous consequences for the nation's building stock of the imposition of VAT on alterations, as is already the case for repairs. Treasury mandarins, however, are impervious to such arguments and will see them as special pleading by the owner of an historic house and by an architect, just as surely as if they complained about the taxing of their fish and chips.

While the taxing of work on existing buildings is unfortunate, it is the distortion of doing this when both demolition and new building are zero-rated that is grossly unfair and will do far more damage to the environment. If any building work is taxed, then all should be and no one could claim that a demand for the equal imposition of VAT on demolition work and on all new building is special pleading.

There are often good reasons for demolishing a building and erecting a new one, rather than repairing and adapting an existing building, such decisions should be made on the basis of real criteria, not influenced by distorted taxation. It is completely illogical that new buildings should not be similarly taxed and, if the question of employment in the construction industry is raised, the labour-intensive nature of most repair and alteration work might justify a distortion in the reverse direction.

As far as historic buildings are concerned, most of the problems caused by the imposition of VAT could be alleviated by allowing owners of listed buildings to recover the VAT on repairs (not alterations) certified by an architect or quantity surveyor. Also charities, which would include churches and the National Trusts, should be allowed to recover VAT, but there are reasons for doing this which have nothing to do with buildings. Yours faithfully,  
OLIVER BARRATT, Secretary,  
The Cockburn Association (The Edinburgh Civic Trust),  
15 North Bank Street,  
Edinburgh.  
March 21.

## Pint-size increase

From Mr Roy Chapman  
Sir, I note that the brewery which owns my favourite local has responded to the extra 2p per pint duty on beer (a) by sounding off with predictable fury about degrading sales, threat to the working man's drink, body-blow from the EEC, etc; (b) by putting its beer up 3p.

No doubt the neighbourhood chippie will be similarly confused come May 1. Yours faithfully,  
ROY CHAPMAN,  
63 Bevern Square, SW5,  
March 19.



## COURT CIRCULAR

1. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 2000; 283: 2686-2692.



# THE ARTS

Irving Wardle reviews the RSC's Stratford opening of *Henry V*

## The history man

When Stratford last tackled this play, in Terry Hands' 1975 version, the main task was to dispel the shadow of *The Wars of the Roses* and reestablish Henry as a hero in his own right.

The whole emphasis of that production was on Alan Howard's growth from a reformed wastrel to a conquering monarch, with Agincourt counting less as a victory over a foreign enemy than a victory over himself.

In Adrian Noble's production, which opens the new Stratford season, the centre is by no means so clearly defined. If it lies anywhere, it is in the figure of Ian McDiarmid's Chorus: a wry commentator in timeless costume who remains on stage throughout, reflecting every quavering shift of emotion with which modern audiences view this discordant work.

Mr McDiarmid opens with a standard rhetorical flourish, but when he reaches the last line, "Kindly to judge our play", his arms go out in a gesture of invitation asking us to share responsibility for the show.

From that moment he becomes an intimate confidant, jogging our fancy, snarling at the stage's limitations and - crucially - turning deadly serious when he mentions the sacred name of Agincourt and its even bloodier aftermath in the succeeding reign.

It is a bewitchingly varied and witty

performance, but its main importance is structural. It invites the spectator not only to share the task of Henry's followers, but also to acknowledge complicity in the play's nationalistic prejudices. Given our recent history, there is a strong case for saying that *Henry V* is still about ourselves.

The general style of the production is in key with Mr Noble's other Stratford work: copious use of atmospheric music (by Howard Blake, with much reliance on harp arpeggios and unaccompanied folk song), and a denuded stage. The early scenes are played down-stage in front of a traverse curtain, which is whisked off to disclose the black cavern of the impending French battlefield.

Bob Crowley's scheme does not always work out in detail. Alice and the French Princess have to make their first entrance engulfed in the smoke of Harfleur, and the use of a tall rectangular door - symbolizing the gate of war - leads the army straight off the battlefield.

But there are more occasions when it operates brilliantly, such as the sight of the wretched English crouched under sacking in the pouring rain; or

on the night before Agincourt, when the chorus prowls over the squalid down-stage area shining a torch over Henry's followers, while in the farthest depths of the stage the French are seen looting in golden luxury, languidly passing the night in games of chess before their supposedly certain victory.

The Stratford programme contains two parallel essays on "Hero-King" and "Scourge of God", both of which relate to Kenneth Branagh's performance. At his first appearance, you can well imagine Mr Branagh as Hal: a quiet, cold figure watching and listening while giving nothing away, and generally avoiding the centre of the stage. He first shows his hand in the tennis-ball scene, beginning with a mild answer to the French insult, and then exploding into paroxysms of psychotic rage.

The effect is characteristic of this actor, and it is well matched to Henry's habit of playing the sympathetic private man and then arising into violent public action. In Mr Branagh's case, there is no clear-cut division between the two.

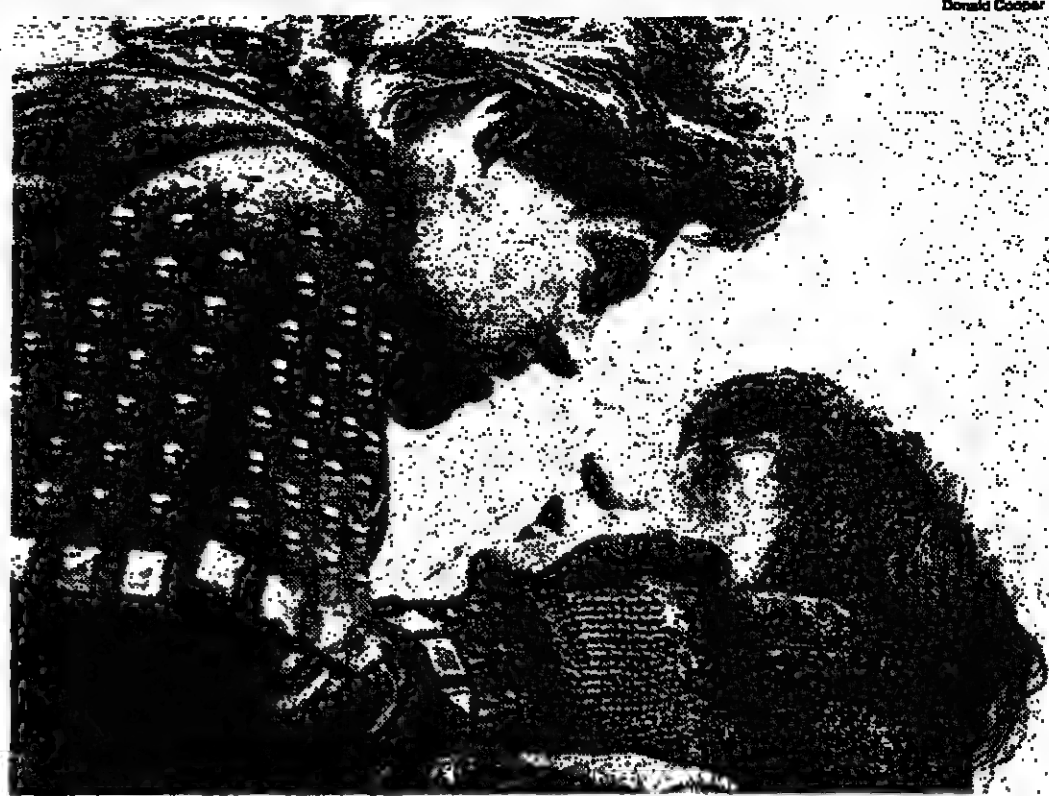
Not content with sentencing the English conspirators to death, he hurls

himself on Stephen Simms' Scroop for an act of personal betrayal. And after the massacre of the boys, he similarly assaults the French herald. The performance throughout presents a poised, confident mask through which panic and savagery periodically break out.

This can take the form of physical courage, as in a veriginous fall from a ladder, or in the arms of his followers. More often he comes over as a haunted man, pursued simultaneously by personal and dynastic history. His prayer before Agincourt is a gabbled, terrified act of bribery, fully in the spirit of his guilty father.

Likewise, memories of Eastcheap come home to roost at his last encounter with Bardolph (John Ragan) who kneels fixing the king with a mute, terrifying stare as he is slowly garrotted by Brian Blessed's hulking Exeter. This is by far the most painful moment of the evening, and the passage where Mr Branagh comes closest to public collapse.

I have said enough to indicate the intelligence of this reading. What it lacks is magnitude. Vocally, Mr Branagh is underpowered for the part, and repeatedly his climaxes are simply high-pitched instead of thrilling. He has not mastered the craft of individual word emphasis, and his complete does not ring.



Public violence: Kenneth Branagh's Henry turns on Lord Scroop (Stephen Simms)

## Paying penance the American way

"You do realize", said the lady from San Francisco, "that what you're seeing in this festival is a tiny fragment of the American theatre". What we were seeing, as usual at Louisville, was a programme of nine plays chosen from the annual intake of some 2,000 scripts. The selection is then shown over three days to an audience of international guests and Kentucky regulars, whose trust in the Actors' Theatre is such that they even subscribe to its unified material.

You can always be sure of finding good design and good performances at Louisville; finding good new plays is the uncertain factor. It can strain the patience to see the lights going up on yet another homely mid-West interior, in which the family shares its problems over a venerable table with frequent recourse to the battered refrigerator. You do not see that kind of banal, everyday naturalism in New York. Domestic politics remain the predominant issue of this year's programme, but its quality is much improved. There has also been a conscious effort by the management to coax their home-loving writers out of the nest.

Two of the main house productions were large-scale commissioned pieces on public themes: Emily Mann's *Excavation of Justice* and Ken Jenkins's *The Crossfire* - dealing respectively with the 1973 San Francisco City Hall murders, and last year's shooting down of the Korean airliner.

The methods and intentions of these pieces were in precise opposition. Miss Mann, viewing the deaths of the liberal mayor and a homosexual supervisor as a clear instance of redneck bigotry, presents the story through a strict reconstruction of the case against their assassin, a former employee of the Police Department, Daniel White.

Mr Jenkins, having no clear ideas about the ill-fated flight except that the episode was too important to ignore, devises a free-for-all in which every party has its say while the question of staging political events is hotly debated by a group of American actors.

Joe Jory's production presents the doomed flight itself in the Kabuki manner, with masked passengers and a model aircraft brought down with a decapitating sword blow. Visually beautiful, such effects also create a framework for debate; but all you glean from Mr Jenkins is that the more important the event, the more impossible it is to dramatize.

On the domestic front, action ranges from a Bronx bar, a Texan mansion, and the slaughtering room of a poultry shop, besides the obligatory farmhouse living room. Of the studio plays, my favourite is P. J. Barry's *The Octet Bridge*.

*Club*, which covers a decade in the lives of eight sisters by means of their Friday-night bridge parties. First seen posing for a local newspaper and introducing themselves with cascades of beautifully orchestrated giggles, they wind up facing death, dismemberment, and madness.

Underlying this play - like other Louisville products - is a standard American device, in this case the party that uncovers painful truths from the past, and, again in company with other pieces, it leaves the pattern implicit. The sisters may be Roman Catholics who have stoically closed their minds to sexual frustration and betrayal. But instead of the obligatory scene where all of this comes out, you are left to deduce it from their style of gossip, regression to childhood games, and obedience to the censorious eldest sister (Sylvia Cassell), who still wields parental authority. Set around two card tables with a dummy player always on the move, Robert Spera's production flows with comic invention.

The same themes crop up, well fleshed-out, in Horton Foote's *Courship*, a delicate 1914 study of two gently reared Texas girls immured in the home while the sounds and rumours of fecundity and shotgun marriage drift in from the world outside. They recur in Lee Blessing's *Independence*, an all-girls family reunion where madness moves into the centre of the home in the person of a deranged mother (the formidable Miss Gassell again).

Partly as a result of seeing the plays in rapid succession, you get the impression of a group mind at work; and the hints of quiet domestic plays come into the festival. On the studio stage they take the form of an "apache dance", as John Patrick Shanley accurately subtitled *Danny and The Deep Blue Sea*, a bar-room encounter between two self-condemned social outcasts, who begin with tremendous exchanges of abuse and physical violence before coming together for the night.

Irving Wardle

## Docteur Miracle/Margot la Rouge

Bloomsbury

We have a rather gruesome way of celebrating composers' anniversaries - by digging skeletons out of their cupboards. I doubt, however, that anything more embarrassing is going to come rattling from the Delius closet this year than his one-act opera *Margot la Rouge*.

The essence of longing distilled there is associated in the opera with Margot's innocent past as she remembers it, and as it is remembered by Thibault, who encounters her by chance in her present state as a whore and persuades her that they can regain the happiness of former times.

Robert Carsen's production is spot-on, providing a vehicle for characterful performances by Anne Mason as Margot, Maria Mull as her well-cheated rival Lili Béguin, Kim Begley as Thibault and Rodney Macann as L'Artiste.

Mr Carsen and the conductor Clive Timms also find amusing things to do before the interval with Lecoq's *Docteur Miracle*, another competition entry and, not altogether deservedly, a more successful one.

## Yentl (PG)

Leicester Square Theatre

## El Sur (The South) (U)

Academy Two

## By Design (18)

Gate Bloomsbury

## Reflections (15)

Chelsea Cinema

Isaac Bashevis Singer's *Yentl*. The *Yeshiva Boy* is a small story, and Barbara Streisand's *Yentl* is a big film; and in that distinction lie the problems. The perfect scale for Singer's bald, elliptical tale would have been the modest production of the old-time Yiddish cinema, made by directors like Joseph Green and Edgar G. Ulmer.

But the economics of Hollywood - and the politics of stardom can no longer accommodate the small film. The anecdote has to be encased in two hours of spectacle and song and the character must be accommodated to the status and personality of the star.

This is not to doubt Barbara Streisand's commitment to the project (she has, it seems, wanted to film the story for 15 years, and dedicates it to her father) or her undoubted achievement in her first film as director. Filming on location in Czechoslovakia, with Roy Walker as production designer and Judy Moten as costume designer, she has lovingly recreated the look of Russian-Polish Jewry at the turn of the century.

*Yentl*, the daughter of a rabbi, yearns for learning but in her society and time a woman is prohibited from studying the sacred lore. When her father dies, she disguises herself as a man, changes her name to Anshel, and enrolls in a yeshiva in Lublin. She excels in scholarship; but "once you say 'A', you must say 'B'", and her

As the script progresses the filmmakers abandon Singer more and more to develop their own story.

The inflation of the story does not, in fact, much broaden or deepen *Yentl*'s own character. This gives Ms Streisand, as director-star, her major problem, since she is on the screen and in close-up for a very large part of the time. She looks charming and amusing in male clothing, but the range demanded by *Yentl*-Anshel is small, and the actress is eventually reduced to monotonous repetition of the same repertoire of appealing looks and crooked or quavering upper lip.

It would be impossible to have a Streisand film in which she did not sing. Here music - an impressive score by Michel Legrand with lyrics by Alan and Marilyn Bergman - is used as a continuing internal monologue.

Paul Griffiths

## Too much of a good thing

transvestism involves her in some strange and near-tragic adventures, as she falls in love with a fellow-student and marries the girl whose parents have rejected him.

To make a film out of it, Ms Streisand and her fellow writer Jack Rosenthal, have been obliged to inflate Singer's hints and ellipses into rather dogged descriptive action: a heavy comedy scene where Anshel and the man she secretly loves are obliged to share a bed; a more teasingly erotic one when the other students try to force Anshel to bathe with them.

Instead of Singer's wonderfully enigmatic treatment of the wedding night ("Hadass in her innocence was unaware that things were not quite as they should have been") the film develops a lengthy expository sequence.



The getting of wisdom: Barbara Streisand as Yentl

Her fascination with this magical South is only increased by a visit by her grandmother and her father's old nanny, a delectable, loving old peasant chatterbox. In time, as she herself matures, she sees her father deteriorate, succumbing to drink and disappointment.

As the film ends she is making her own way to the South, intent on solving some of the mysteries of her father's life and death.

Erice confirms his mastery of mood, ambivalence, and the art of evoking the mysteries rather than the sharp lines of character. His portrait of the young girl is as fascinating as the *Beehive* children. In his film, though, even while submitting to his storytelling spells, there is an inescapable inclination to wonder what, if anything, it is about.

Claude Jutra's *By Design*, from Canada, at least makes its intentions very clear - once past the first reels, which are rather self-conscious about their "sophistication" in establishing the ambience of a modest design house. The business is run by two attractive women, played by Patty Duke Astin and Sara Botsford, who prove extremely deft and witty players once they, too, get over the bad patch at the beginning.

They live together in a homosexual relationship which is perfectly contented, except

The notion is in principle excellent and the performance is fine, yet the film seems an excessive ornament on a small story already more than fully explored by the images and dialogue.

Though Singer's own ending has a nice sense of enigma, the finale of the film is an intelligent and imaginative speculation. It provides a well-calculated dramatic pay-off to a first feature whose nerve and verve, whatever its other shortcomings, are undeniable.

*El Sur* is Victor Erice's first film since *The Spirit of the Beehive* 10 years ago. It has the same elusive quality of that earlier dealing less in direct relationships than in tapes in communication and the distances that separate people. The elusiveness is heightened here, since the film appears to be only the first part of a cycle: it ends in the air, with every promise of a sequel to follow.

The leading character is again a young girl, whom we watch growing to adolescence (she is successively and beautifully played by Solesmes Aranguren and Clara Ballester). Her father is a doctor whom she idolizes in her childhood, not least because of the mystery his origins in "The South" give him.

Her fascination with this magical South is only increased by a visit by her grandmother and her father's old nanny, a delectable, loving old peasant chatterbox. In time, as she herself matures, she sees her father deteriorate, succumbing to drink and disappointment.

As the film ends she is making her own way to the South, intent on solving some of the mysteries of her father's life and death.

Erice confirms his mastery of mood, ambivalence, and the art of evoking the mysteries rather than the sharp lines of character. His portrait of the young girl is as fascinating as the *Beehive* children. In his film, though, even while submitting to his storytelling spells, there is an inescapable inclination to wonder what, if anything, it is about.

Claude Jutra's *By Design*, from Canada, at least makes its intentions very clear - once past the first reels, which are rather self-conscious about their "sophistication" in establishing the ambience of a modest design house. The business is run by two attractive women, played by Patty Duke Astin and Sara Botsford, who prove extremely deft and witty players once they, too, get over the bad patch at the beginning.

They live together in a homosexual relationship which is perfectly contented, except

for their keen desire for a child. The regular adoption agency is unhelpful in the matter. The only solution seems to be to resort to regular biological processes, and the tragedy follows the story of their search for a suitable agent for the impregnation.

By a series of accidents, both manage to become pregnant, though the screenplay (by Jutra, with Joe Weisenfeld and David Eames) manages to give the ending an unexpected twist. It is a simple, kindly film, which manages to combine robust and sexy comedy with a generous and intelligent approach to the basic human problems it assaults.

It is 12 years since the British director Kevin Billington made his last film, *The Light at the Edge of the World*, and 16 since he made his well-received first feature film, *Interlude*. Unhappy, *Reflections*, from the Irish novelist John Banville's story *The Newcomer*, has not provided him with a very suitable subject for his return to features.

It is an anecdote about a rather grishly historian who rents a lodge on a crumbling Irish estate, and becomes puzzlingly involved with the crumbling family that inhabits it. He leaves with the melancholy realization that he has not learnt a thing about them, and since the audience shares his bewilderment the whole enterprise is rather frustrating.

It is a film of excessive pretension to sensibility and atmosphere, which means that there is a great deal of walking around, lingering, looks of indecipherable meaning, and endless pauses between lines, which are not so great that they merit time for consideration.

David Robinson

**CATE**  
CATE BLOOMSBURY  
01-837 8402 837 177  
Claude Jutra's  
**BY DESIGN**  
Lynne Littman's  
**TESTAMENT**  
CATE MAYFAIR  
01-293 2031  
Luchino Visconti's  
**THE LEOPARD**

6 OSCAR NOMINATIONS  
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**FANNY AND ALEXANDER**  
INGMAR BERGMAN  
LIMITED SEASON  
Film at 3.20 & 7.15 daily  
**CAMDEN PLAZA**  
485 2843 (OPPOSITE CAMDEN TUBE STATION)

**IRRESISTIBLE WIT**  
DINSDALE LINDEN  
NICKY HENSON  
JENNIFER HILARY  
JILL BAKER  
**SUFFICIENT CARBOHYDRATE**  
DENNIS POTTER  
SEASON ENDS 28 APRIL  
**ALBERT THEATRE**  
BOX OFFICE 01-636 3878 CCL 379 6565

**Sadler's Wells Theatre**  
3-14 April 1984  
Petrushka  
LES RENDEZVOUS  
RAYMONDA ACT III  
3-5 April  
PAQUITA  
THE WINTER PLAY  
PINEAPPLE POLL  
10-12 April  
LES SYLPHIDES  
"METAMORPHOSIS"  
RAYMONDA ACT III  
10-12 April  
GISELLE  
preceded by  
"NEW JACKSON BALLET"  
13-14 April  
World premiere  
Even: 7.30 Sat: 8.30  
Sons: 2.50-2.10  
Box Office 01-278 8916 (5 lines)  
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## Home and away

The dialogue stumbled rather, but *Missing from Home*, BBC 1's six-part thriller series which began last night, was sufficiently intriguing to merit watching next time around.

As played by Judy Loe, Allison Reynolds - whose husband went to the office as usual but didn't return - seemed more inconvenienced than distraught. She was particularly testy with the Special Branch and the police, which didn't seem to be likely in the circumstances, nor did she look the kind of woman who would be on such a steep learning curve at such a moment.

She appeared to know little about her husband's business, or about the family's financial affairs. He, it appeared, had access to classified information, was something of a gambler, and was apparently not all that popular. Certainly the man who shared his office seemed indifferent to him, and a neighbour shied away when questioned.

No doubt we shall learn more about him shortly, although some action will be needed to keep it going. We shall also see a lot more of Miss Loe in this story by Roger Marshall, and that faintly formidable mien may become more compatible

with the situation as her troubles increase.

BBC 2's *Forty Minutes*, produced by John Percival, was a heartening programme. It is good to know that the longhorn, the Gloucester Old Spot pig, and the Shetland and Portland sheep are alive and fairly well and with a chance of returning to fashion.

They owe it to the Rare Breeds Survival Trust, a band of people who restore one's faith in the enduring eccentricity of the British which could imply, in this case, a certain long-sightedness.

Animal Antiques told how these far-from-everyday countryfolk had doggedly continued to breed sheep and cattle which the more commercially minded had decided were *outré*. It could turn out that they have been canny.

The longhorn is fetching prices which suggest it is farthest along the road to rehabilitation. And the genes of these rare animals are now commanding themselves to those who are apprehensive about the shape of things to come.

Dennis Hackett

Two women in love. Why shouldn't they have a baby?  
**By Design**  
Patty Duke Astin and Sara Botsford  
Directed by Claude Jutra  
**CATE BLOOMSBURY**  
837-8402 837-177

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**Sadler's Wells Theatre**  
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**THE GOLDEN BEAR AWARD**  
BERLIN FILM FESTIVAL  
INTERNATIONAL FILM CRITICS  
acclaim  
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**MIKE OCKRENT**  
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## STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

**ACCOUNT DAYS:** Dealings Begin, March 26. Dealings End April 6. \$ Contango Day, April 9. Settlement Day, April 14.  
4. Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

**ACCOUNT DAYS:** Dealings Begin, March 26. Dealings End April 6. \$ Contango Day, April 9. Settlement Day, April 16.

[illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible]

هكذا من الأصل

1983/84	Low Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div	Yld	% P/E
804	TR Property	120	..	4.6%	3.3	..
118	TR Technology	162	+2	4.7	2.9	..
-782	TR Trustees	113	-1	4.7b	4.2	..
170	Throg Sec 'Cap'	264	+2	8.8b	2.5	..
137	Throgmin Trust	194	..	5.3	4.8	..

[illegible]



## FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

### Montagu and Greenwell prepare for the big bang

The engagement between Samuel Montagu, the Midlands in house merchant bank, and W Greenwell, the most influential gilt-edged stockbroker, was formally announced yesterday. Samuel Montagu has taken the prescribed 29.9 per cent of Greenwell and will move to 50 per cent when Stock Exchange rules permit. Meanwhile, the partners, best symbolized by Mr Staffan Gadd who has brought peace, goodwill and profit to Montagu, and Mr Gordon Pepper, the seer of Greenwell and gifts, believe they have a marriage of true minds.

Interchange will be limited during the first phase, which will end with the Stock Exchange's big bang: the coming of negotiated brokers' commissions in the second half of next year. Thereafter, the two see themselves as effectively one essentially British Market maker in fixed-interest stocks and a block trader in equities. They are thus anticipating the Americanization of trading methods in London, and beyond that, the coming as corporate members of the London Stock Exchange of leading American and Japanese investment houses. Greenwell lacks the "trading mentality", which Montagu will bring (together with capital and an extensive overseas network) it will contribute the research capability and the distribution system.

For the clearing Banks this is mainly a matter of the interpretation of American law which sets out in largely untested statutes investment areas in which they, and stockbrokers, may operate. A survey has been commissioned. Bankers, it is fair to say, are coming round the view that trading large blocks of shares is where the real money is to be made.

Sir Timothy Bevan, chairman of Barclays, said on Wednesday that if his bank had put all the money in gilts last year, profits would have been just £169m less, for minimal risk and regular income, than Barclays made from traditional banking. Add an international dealing network and making money from mere banking would become a secondary business. Barclays, De Zoete & Bevan and Wedd Durlacher Mordant are clearly set to become a substantial force.

April 9 is an important day: international dealerships start to trade in overseas securities for negotiated, rather than traditional fixed commissions. On that day also, the cost of buying and gilts will drop by between 10 and 20 per cent. That alone could wipe between £10m and £15m from the income of the larger gilt-broking firms. Greenwell, among others, are not letting the grass die under their feet.

### Making hay while ASC prevaricates

The worst fears expressed here yesterday about the stand-off position toward deferred taxation taken by the upper echelon of accountants were duly confirmed after the stock market had made hay in bank shares. National Westminster leaped 17p., Barclays 15p., Lloyds 13p., and Midland a more modest 8p. If the auditors had decided that bank balance sheets and profit and loss accounts would avoid the new, harsh realities of deferred taxation on the banks' leasing business, then it made sense to push up the shares if only to take a quick profit later in the day.

Despite tremendous professional and even public interest in the subject, focused on the clearing banks because of their provided deferred taxation liabilities of up to £1.5 billion, and a crying need for a common approach, all the Accounting Standards Committee could muster was a thinly worded press release which, in effect, allows companies and their auditors to do whatever they want as long as the accounts still show a "true and fair view". The standard setters have once again hidden behind their traditional stance that they do not interpret accounting standards nor are they prepared to legislate to accommodate the changes. The only crumb of encouragement is that the situation is under review.

### Turnround at Istock

● Istock Johnsen, the Leicester brick maker, yesterday reported a dramatic turnround in trading fortunes. Pretax losses of £1.9m in 1982 have been turned into profits of £6.6m for last year. A final dividend of 3.75p is being recommended raising the total for the year from 4.5p to 5.5p. Mr Paul Hyde-Thomson, the chairman, said the group was on target for another big advance this year.

Tempus, page 19  
● Lucas Industries, the car component manufacturers, has reported a £3.5m pretax profit for the first half year to January 31. It has turned round the £5.2m loss recorded for the same period last year. Pretax profit for the full year to July 1983 was £2.1m. The interim dividend of 2.5p has been maintained. Total dividends last year were 8.6p. Turnover also increased by £75m to £659m for the six month period. Turnover for the full year was £1,216m last time.

Tempus, page 19  
● Croda International profits rose from £15m to £17.6m for the year ended December 25 on sales ahead from £307m to £341m. The net dividend is unchanged at 7p on earnings up from 7.18p to 8.43p, fully diluted post tax.

Tempus, page 19  
● Fire damage cost British insurers £32.2m in February, bringing the total so far this year to £70.3m.

Until the review is completed and materialized as an accounting standard, which could be months away, the ASC has merely reminded companies that SSAP 15, the standard on deferred taxation, and SSAP 6, the standard on extraordinary items remain in force.

Had it stopped there, the scope for manipulation would have been reduced. Most companies would then have been hard pressed to do anything but write back, as extraordinary item debits, deferred taxation liabilities which they had not provided for. The ASC's press release, however, adds: "There may be instances where companies feel that applying SSAP 15 and SSAP 6 does not enable their accounts to give a true and fair view".

Not only does all this open the door for companies to do as they will, it leaves boards of directors in the curious position of preparing their accounts in accordance not with accounting standards but with ASC press releases. As there is already a disparity of view among the big eight accountancy firms on how the problem should be resolved, there is little hope of consistency. The ASC was set up in an attempt to bring some order to the chaotic variety of accounting practices used by companies; it now seems to be encouraging the return to the bad old ways.

### US deficit a record - and still growing

Like the Empire State building, the US trade deficit has to be admired for its size. At \$10.1 billion, the February figure, the worst ever so far, compares with a February 1983 out-turn of \$3.6 billion. Over the last 12 months the deficit totalled \$80 billion; if you annualize the last quarter's figure, you come up with around \$105 billion. The deterioration looks to be accelerating, and Mr Martin Feldstein's forecast yesterday that the trade deficit could exceed \$100 billion in 1985 might come true sooner than he thinks.

Mr Feldstein head of the US Council of Economic Advisors, added the caveat that a falling dollar would improve the trade figures.

Traders in US bonds were however more concerned with the current debt auction. The seven-year note auction went well selling at average yields of 12.41 per cent, and dealers, who reportedly bought the lion's share, discerned some retail interest.

US bond holders are probably weary of deficit talk, and their attention is focused more on how the deficit will be financed. A merchandise trade deficit of a notional \$100 billion in 1984 would come out at perhaps \$80 billion on current account, net of invisibles. This estimate compares with 1982 and 1983 current deficits of \$11 billion and \$40 billion respectively. With flight capital from the Third World increasingly blocked by IMF-imposed currency restrictions, the burden of financing the US deficit in election year is set to fall increasingly on the Japanese and the West Germans, now running cumulative and annualized payments surpluses of some \$30 billion.

How these two tighten the political economic screw via the bond markets by insisting on improved lending terms will become clearer later in the run-up to the US November elections. But as the Bank of England's Quarterly Bulletin reveals, the Americans cannot count on Opec surpluses to help them out this time around. True, the Opec countries' current account position improved during the second half of 1983 to a \$6 billion surplus (1983 deficit \$9 billion) but the switch out of the dollar by Opec countries continued. In the fourth quarter of 1983, Opec countries sold \$1.8 billion of US bonds, with the bulk of their invested surpluses going into the IMF. This move certainly helped the developing countries whose IMF borrowing now equals their bank borrowings, but the US authorities must view the switch with chagrin.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### North Sea oil bonus

North Sea oil output is running at the rate of more than £2m-worth every hour, according to estimates today.

And the Government may still be underestimating the amount of revenue it will get from North Sea oil this year.

The claim was made by the Royal Bank of Scotland, which publishes a monthly index of production from the North Sea.

The Budget forecast of revenues worth £10.2 billion in the coming year seems "cautious rather than optimistic", according to bank analysts. The true figure could be "nearer £11 billion".

Production in February hit a new record for the fourth successive month, with an average daily output of 2.55 million barrels, a nearly 14 per cent rise on February last year.

### US bank suspends loans to Argentina

From Bailey Morris, Washington

The US Export Import Bank has abruptly suspended new loans and credit guarantees to Argentina as concern grows that Buenos Aires will refuse to meet interest payments on its \$43 billion debt, and that other debtor nations will follow suit.

At the same time, it was learned that President Reagan had personally intervened in the negotiations between Argentina and a crisis team at the US Treasury.

Mr Reagan is reported to have expressed his concern over the stalled negotiations and to have asked for a special report on Argentina's bargaining position on its large outstanding debt - \$2.5 billion (\$2.6 billion) of which is owed to US banks.

Meanwhile, US Treasury officials said that although the talks continued, they were not confident that Argentina would meet a crucial weekend deadline for repayment of about \$2.5 billion in overdue interest payments.

Officials said a "good-faith payment" of from \$300 to \$800m by tomorrow would be enough to avert a ruling by US regulatory authorities that the loans were non-performing and should therefore be classified as losses against the earnings of US banks.

The Hongkong stock market suffered its biggest one-day fall for six months yesterday, as the Crown colony's financial community tried to digest the implications that the oldest Hong (trading house) of them all, Jardine Matheson, was moving its legal domicile to Bermuda.

The Hang Seng Index plunged by 72.95 at one stage, before recovering to close 61.76 down at 1,057.09. Dealers said the recovery would have been greater but for late selling from London. Even so, few observers expect the index to stay over 1,000 for long in the present uncertain climate.

Jardine Matheson's shares fell HK\$1.30 (11½p) to HK\$11.30 on the day, after being as low as HK\$10.90.

### Lotus 'will bar gates' to Revenue

By Jonathan Clare

Group Lotus, the Norfolk-based maker of prestige sports cars, will bar its gates on Monday morning to three special investigators of the Inland Revenue who have been examining its books.

The move, decided on by Mr Wickins, the group's new chairman, is the prelude to legal action in the High Court if an appeal to the Inland Revenue Commissioners against protective tax assessments totalling \$85m fails. Mr Wickins said yesterday that he had last year paid the Inland Revenue over the protective assessments. They were made part of the investigation into the missing millions from the DeLorean failed car venture in Northern Ireland.

Mr Wickins said yesterday that the decision had been taken on Wednesday because the investigation had badly hit Lotus' new car sales in the US.

"We have given them access to all our books and papers and they said it would take about six weeks", he said. "They have been sitting there looking glum and smug for 14 weeks."

He added that if Lotus loses the appeal to the Inland Revenue Commissioners he would go to the High Court to get Lotus' books but "we will oppose it".

Mr Wickins said that protective assessments were misunderstood in the US. "The DeLorean case is big news there and they always refer in the last paragraph of a story to a \$140m tax assessment on Lotus", he added that if any DeLorean money was missing "this company has not had that. Mr Wickins said this had cost Lotus a lot of sales."

### Journalist faces SEC inquiry

From Nick Gilbert, New York

The Wall Street Journal yesterday reported one of its senior journalists, Mr R. Foster Winans, is under investigation by the US Securities and Exchange Commission.

The commission - more used to probing insider dealings by corporate executives - is investigating allegations that Mr Winans leaked the contents of articles ahead of publication. A number of share dealers are alleged to have made illicit profits.

Mr Winans left the paper yesterday. His lawyer refused to say whether Mr Winans had gained financially or otherwise from the alleged leaks.

He said: "I have instructed my attorney that I wish to continue to cooperate fully with the commission."

By William Kay and Philip Robinson

Some Hongkong investors now regard the shares as a convenient way to hedge the growing risks associated with the island as the time approaches for the People's Republic of China to reclaim it and the nearby New Territories.

Talks between the Chinese and British governments are due to resume on April 11. The Chinese have said that if the talks fail they will announce unilateral plans for the area in September. The British lease on the New Territories runs out in 1997.

Mr Simon Keswick, chairman of Jardine, clearly felt that the risks were reaching an unacceptable level. He told reporters in Hongkong: "When we are competing in the international market place for major long-term contracts it is undoubtedly a disadvantage to have to deal with questions regarding the long-term future of Hongkong."

He added that Bermuda had been chosen as a destination because of its proximity to New York; it had a stable government and was a well-known financial centre. Its legal system is, like Hongkong's, based on the English pattern and there is appeal from Bermuda to the Privy Council in London.

There are suggestions that Jardine had talks with several potential havens to see which could offer the best deal, particularly with regard to the number of Jardine executives who would be allowed to emigrate there.

London investment analysts were, however, playing down the significance of the decision. They pointed out that Jardine was no longer the force it had been on Hongkong. Mr Keswick had not become as involved in the community as some of his predecessors.

Greater fears were being expressed over Hutchinson Whampoa's vastly increased dividend this week, which was being seen as a means of exporting some of its assets. But from the point of view of the Hongkong balance of payments, all outflows have to be matched by inflows. The local currency is pegged to the United States dollar, so that any strain is borne by interest rates.

The two new companies will be operated in virtually all the department stores as concessions. Debenhams already runs its furniture business as a separate profit centre.

The new findings record results from Harris for the third year running, with profits up from £16.3m to £25.6m. Trading in the first 13 weeks of the current year was up by 30 per cent, helped by the Budget reduction in stamp duty and good house-buying figures.

Mr Phil Harris, the chairman, also revealed that the group had taken a 5 per cent equity stake in the Symphony Group, a private Leeds company which has kitchen concessions in most Queensway stores. Symphony made £1m last year.

Seven new shops will be opened this year, and Harris is waiting for planning permission for a further 13.

TSB profitability up 70%  
By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

Trustee Savings Bank, the biggest personal banking group in the country with 6 million customers, yesterday reported a rise in operating profits from £130m to £153m the year to last November 20.

TSB Group is due to be privatized through an offer for sale of shares which could be worth up to £900m, according to City estimates. Legislation is needed first and flotation is now expected between December 1983 and June 1984.

Excluding profits on investments and government stocks which were 56 per cent lower at £23m, underlying profitability increased by 70 per cent. This was largely due to the rise in income generated by new loans.

The group has traditionally been very underlent and remains so compared with the big clearing banks. However, last year advances rose by 47 per cent to £2.7 billion, although total assets grew by only 11 per cent to £9.6 billion.

All the group's operations showed improvements.

The dramatic downturn in the gold market in February 1983 and the disappointing price performance since then should be viewed principally in relation to the extraordinary strength of the US dollar and receding fears of global debt defaults.

At the same time, measuring the gold price in terms of dollars is a deceptive guide to its value in a period of unique dollar strength, taking a two-year view, while the dollar price of gold at the end of 1983 was lower than at the end of 1981. It was slightly higher in terms of the year and considerably more so in terms of the major European currencies. This has increased the value of gold investments in these currencies but it has also discouraged demand for fabricated gold in traditional gold-buying areas.

Even if allowance is made for a rise in gold production outside South Africa, the broad pattern of physical supply is not likely to alter fundamentally this year. The use of reserves to finance current-account deficits by the non-oil LDCs is expected to lessen significantly if this is so, it will remove a psychologically bearish influence, but this possibility is inextricably bound up with prospects for the world economy, the dollar and interest rates.

The argument on amelioration of the financing difficulties of the heavily-indebted third-world nations rests broadly on the assumption of at least a moderate and steady recovery in world economic output. It also pre-supposes some decline in the dollar and real interest rates in order to alleviate the debt-service burden and to permit a resumption of bank and official lending. But even the most sanguine of outlooks, based on highly sophisticated simulations, caution that the next two years will be critical.

In contrast, other models forecast a faltering recovery as the fight against inflation is maintained, that of prices will fall again and interest rates, reflecting the global shortage of savings, will remain high.

The first scenario may seem encouraging for gold; the second less so. It must be asked, however, whether the latter outcome would not contain the seeds of renewed difficulties for the OECD economies as well as the LDCs, especially with the current trend towards protectionism. It is possible, therefore, that perceptions regarding the prospects of reaching the idea of non-inflationary growth without further disturbances may change. Even if that long-term goal were to be realised, there would be obvious advantages for gold, meanwhile, there seem to be enough problems inherent in the present situation to ensure that gold's role will endure and, indeed, it may well be that it is already being favourably re-assessed.

Uranium  
Prospects for the uranium market are little changed from a year ago. Projections of future uranium electricity-generating capacity continue to fall. Uranium production has continued to decline, especially in the United States, in the face of growing utility inventories and their financing costs at a time of world-wide economic difficulties and reduced energy demand. The South African gold mining industry's production, while subject to similar market pressures, increased from 6 605 tons in 1982 to 6 933 tons in 1983 as a result of new projects.

### Rumours lift CU shares

The shares of Commercial Union Assurance rose by 15p to 206p yesterday, fuelled by rumours that an American insurer was about to mount a dawn raid on the company's shares. But a spokesman said that the company was "mystified" by the rumours. "We have nothing on the boil at the moment," he said.

However, investment analysts expect to hear today either news of an outright bid for CU, or details of a deal to offload the troubled United States side.

## STOCK EXCHANGES

FT-SE 100 Index 2113.6 up 10.0 (day's high: 2116.5; low: 2109.3)  
FT Index 881.8 up 6.6  
FT 100 Index 82.25 up 0.06  
FT All Share 324.77 up 3.63  
Bergine 58.32  
Daimler-Benz 113.79 up 0.13  
New York Dow Jones Industrial Average (futures) 1178.92 up 6.5  
Tokyo Nikkei Dow Jones Index 100.801.55 up 100.68  
Hongkong Hang Seng Index 1057.09 down 61.76  
Singapore 170.1 up 0.9  
Sydney AQ Index 745.1 up 8.9  
Frankfurt Commerzbank Index 1020.6 down 2.8  
Brussels General Index 110.29 up 0.01  
Paris CAC Index 163.6 up 1.1  
Zurich SKA General 313.1 up 0.4

## CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE  
Sterling \$1.4475 up 5pts  
Austrian 90.4 down 0.1  
DM 3.7550 down 0.0050  
FF 11.56 down 0.0050  
Yen 324.75 down 1.50  
Dollar 126.0 down 0.6  
DM 2.5892 down 0.009  
NEW YORK LATEST  
Sterling \$1.4505  
Dollar DM 2.5857  
ECU DM 1.7533  
SDR DM 7.5538

## INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:  
Bank base rates 8½  
Finance houses base rate 9½  
Discount market loans week fixed 9½  
3 month interbank 9 - 8½  
Euro-currency rates:  
3 month dollar 10½ - 10¼  
3 month DM 5½ - 5¼  
3 month Fr 14½ - 14¼  
US rates:  
Bank prime rate 11.50  
Fed funds 10  
Treasury long bond 96½ - 96¾  
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average close \$389.50-390 (2269-269.50)  
New York (latest): \$380  
Kruggerand (per cent): \$401.50-403 (\$277.25-278.25)  
Sovereigns (new): \$92-93 (\$63.50-64.25)  
Excludes VAT

## GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):  
am \$390.35 pm \$390.25  
Close \$389.50-390 (2269-269.50)  
New York (latest): \$380  
Kruggerand (per cent): \$401.50-403 (\$277.25-278.25)  
Sovereigns (new): \$92-93 (\$63.50-64.25)  
Excludes VAT

An abridgement of the annual review by Mr. J. Ogilvie Thompson, chairman of Anglo American Gold Investment Company Limited.

## AMGOLD

### The outlook for gold remains promising, particularly in the medium to longer term.

The improved results of the group for the year reflect the higher profit distributions by the gold mining companies in 1983. Net earnings of £238.7 million were 22 per cent higher than last year. Investment income increased 23 per cent from £196.7 million to £242.1 million. Earnings per share of 1087.2 cents compare with 880.9 cents last year. Dividends declared of 1025 cents a share amounted to £225 million, 19.2 per cent higher than 1983, leaving retained earnings for the year of £13.6 million (£8.8 million), reflecting the slightly larger commitments anticipated for the current year.

The value of the group's investments at the year end totalled a record £3917 million compared with £3 002 million at the end of the previous year, after providing for the final dividend, was 78 000 cents a share (£3 7706).

Gold  
The dramatic downturn in the gold market in February 1983 and the disappointing price performance since then should be viewed principally in relation to the extraordinary strength of the US dollar and receding fears of global debt defaults.

At the same time, measuring the gold price in terms of dollars is a deceptive guide to its value in a period of unique dollar strength, taking a two-year view, while the dollar price of gold at the end of 1983 was lower than at the end of 1981. It was slightly higher in terms of the year and considerably more so in terms of the major European currencies. This has increased the value of gold investments in these currencies but it has also discouraged demand for fabricated gold in traditional gold-buying areas.

Even if allowance is made for a rise in gold production outside South Africa, the broad pattern of physical supply is not likely to alter fundamentally this year. The use of reserves to finance current-account deficits by the non-oil LDCs is expected to lessen significantly if this is so, it will remove a psychologically bearish influence, but this possibility is inextricably bound up with prospects for the world economy, the dollar and interest rates.

The argument on amelioration of the financing difficulties of the heavily-indebted third-world nations rests broadly on the assumption of at least a moderate and steady recovery in world economic output. It also pre-supposes some decline in the dollar and real interest rates in order to alleviate the debt-service burden and to permit a resumption of bank and official lending. But even the most sanguine of outlooks, based on highly sophisticated simulations, caution that the next two years will be critical.

In contrast, other models forecast a faltering recovery as the fight against inflation is maintained, that of prices will fall again and interest rates, reflecting the global shortage of savings, will remain high.

The first scenario may seem encouraging for gold; the second less so. It must be asked, however, whether the latter outcome would not contain the seeds of renewed difficulties for the OECD economies as well as the LDCs, especially with the current trend towards protectionism. It is possible, therefore, that perceptions regarding the prospects of reaching the idea of non-inflationary growth without further disturbances may change. Even if that long-term goal were to be realised, there would be obvious advantages for gold, meanwhile, there seem to be enough problems inherent in the present situation to ensure that gold's role will endure and, indeed, it may well be that it is already being favourably re-assessed.

Uranium  
Prospects for the uranium market are little changed from a year ago. Projections of future uranium electricity-generating capacity continue to fall. Uranium production has continued to decline, especially in the United States, in the face of growing utility inventories and their financing costs at a time of world-wide economic difficulties and reduced energy demand. The South African gold mining industry's production, while subject to similar market pressures, increased from 6 605 tons in 1982 to 6 933 tons in 1983 as a result of new projects.







## STOCK MARKET REPORT

## Bank shares help dispel gloom

By Wayne Lintott

The banking sector, assisted by the Wall Street rally, injected market sentiment with the necessary energy to help it overcome the depression of a falling Hongkong market. Having jumped nine points at the opening, the FT 30 share index finally ended the day 6.6 up at 881.8.

The main impetus to banking shares came from *The Times* disclosure that accountants were likely to take a lenient view of the clearing banks' deferred tax liabilities relating to leasing, and spread the liability over several years.

Lloyds Bank gained 18p to 592p. Barclays rose 13p to 517p. The Midland gained 5p to 389p and National Westminster gained 10p to 672p after 679p.

Lloyds was talking point as rumours increased that it was casting acquisitive eyes towards Mercury Securities, the holding company of Merchant Bankers S. G. Warburg, the merchant banker.

Mercury has already taken a stake in Ackroyd & Smithers, one of London's two biggest jobbing firms. Lloyds is the only remaining clearing bank without a link with a stock market firm and after the Natwest and Barclays moves the pressure is thought to be on.

Taking the view that Lloyds might approach a direct stake equivalent to its rivals and allow it to move straight into the comprehensive international dealing business Mercury and Ackroyd are forming.

Mercury shares slipped 5p to 603p as Lloyds and Mercury refused to comment on the speculation. Reports that Lloyds might approach the leading broker, Hoare Govett, was dismissed as Security

Pacific of Los Angeles reaffirmed that it would be unwilling to sell its stake in Hoare.

Insurance shares also came in for renewed support as the companies continued to disclose higher profits and dividends in the middle of the reporting season.

Commercial Union was highlighted, rising 15p to 206p, as the company is widely thought to be considering the disposal of its problematic United States operations.

The most likely buyer is thought to be Equitable Life, who, it is suggested, have bid for 60 per cent of the US business. Commercial Union was also the potential target of a possible dawn raid coming from the American International Group.

The insurance companies are widely expected to be the next sector of Britain's financial community to come under predator attack. Prudential gained 19p to 480p on comment after Wednesday's surprise 26 per cent rise in its dividend, again thought to be a defensive move.

Much speculation now surrounds the changes taking place in the City and how it might best use its 15,000 sales team and 450 high street premises. The company is dismissive of suggestions that it might decide to make a big acquisition itself if American and European giants decide to compete for it.

Elsewhere in the sector, Legal & General gained 5p to 488p after hitting 490p as the market approached the 1,000 mark.

The cautious Mr John Harvey-Jones, chairman of ICI, Britain's biggest industrial company, has caused some flutters among brokers' analysts. They have been widely predicting that ICI would make pretax profits of more than £1b next year, and £850m this year.

As reported in *The Times* yesterday, in a series of lunches Mr Harvey-Jones has been having with leading brokers, he is reported to have warned them that a billion is a bit too optimistic for 1985. He feels that the US economy may run out of steam in the second quarter of this year, thus forcing the American chemical concern to unload products in Europe.

Most other gains were confined to about 5p but Lucas managed to recoup a 7p loss incurred after its profit figures were announced, and the shares closed unchanged at 220p.

Blue Circle dropped 5p on reports that a price war had developed in a once lucrative Irish market. British Aerospace gained 11p to 239p on news of better-than-expected profits.

Among the special situations, the property to contracting company, Wiggins Group, spurted 5p to 61p on vague speculation of an impending bid.

Wiggins financial director, Mr Edward Pickard, said he knew of no reason for the sudden increase in the share price. Certainly, the company's recent profit performance has been poor with exceptional losses reported in the first half.

Newcastle, the McAlpine overall parent company, holds a 24.3 per cent stake and the property portfolio of Wiggins, is that the construction business, could prove appealing to the now widely diversifying building giant.

Equity turnover yesterday was valued at £317.37m (£217.17m in 1983). Gilt bargains were 2.16 and the number of Irish shares traded was 176 million.

That institutions, which had been accumulating large cash positions during the past two months, came off the sidelines on Wednesday to buy heavily into blue-chip, insurance, television network and defence issues.

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## Revitalized Ibstock earns only faint City praise

The stock market has come to expect dramatic increases in the profits of building materials companies, so it was no surprise that the share price of Ibstock, the Leicester brick maker, eased a few pence yesterday when the group announced a spectacular turnaround in its trading fortunes.

Loss elimination in Holland, where the group has disposed of its troubled brick manufacturing operation, and buoyant brick deliveries in Britain helped turn losses of £1.9m in 1982 into pretax profits of £6.6m last year.

Unfortunately for Ibstock, reporting historic results in the brick-making industry has become commonplace in the wake of London Brick's ambitious forecast of £36m pretax this year, ventured in the heat of its takeover battle with Hanson Trust.

Ibstock will say little about this year, other than that the company is on target for a big increase. But £12m pretax does not look beyond the bounds of possibility.

Another spectacular increase in Ibstock's profits is clearly on the cards despite a fall of 10 per cent in group brick deliveries in the first quarter. The company is currently achieving large increases in profit margins and seems happy to concede market share as it trades ever higher into the architect-specified end of the brick market.

In the US, where the group has been spending heavily on introducing its British market methods, Ibstock is at last poised to move into profits after so many years of losses. Brick deliveries for the first quarter were 18 per cent higher despite the appalling winter weather, and the order book is now 50 per cent up on a year ago.

Gearing is still a worry, with net debt standing at more than half of shareholders' funds. But it should come down sharply this year even before taking account of asset disposals, including the Belgium brick works, that the group is considering.

Ibstock's share price has had the run of its life over the past year and even if the group does make £12m in 1984, it is beginning to look fully valued at 214p. A great deal of new brick capacity will come on stream in Britain over the next few years which could ultimately prove damaging for brick

profits, even at Ibstock's end of the market.

## Croda International

Croda International has outperformed market hopes with a pretax profit jump of one-sixth to £17.6m after a sales gain of 11 per cent. But the bald figures disguise some impressive asset juggling.

Croda started 1983 with high hopes that recovery was well on the way, but burdened by an aggressive dividend policy - the cost of fighting off an unwelcome bid from Burmah - and a relatively high level of gearing, at just under a third of shareholders' funds. Last predators should strike again, the group took a basic decision to maintain the high payout rate, which pro forma cost Croda an extra £3m a year, or roughly the yearly interest bill.

An aggressive programme of asset sales and closures provided a main avenue whereby further in the second half and policy imperative. The synthetic chemicals side was sold to Shell, a stake in Yorkshire Chemical was jettisoned, and the waste surrounding the disposals shows up in the 1983 extraordinary items' debit of £2.3m - broadly closure charges, redundancy costs, and asset shortfalls on book value. A timely loan stock redemption, at £105 per cent, freed the board's hand from trustee control. The whole asset disposal programme has generated £15.7m.

Meanwhile Croda has plodded on with its determined capital expenditure programme (£11.2m), shifting the trading focus away from 'smokestack' Britain and closer to consumer products. Came the dawn and the fourth-quarter of 1983, and the recovery duly materialized. With polymers picking up sharply, Croda saw a record run-up to Christmas, and 1983 group volume sales improved by perhaps 7 per cent. But the cost of working capital rocketed too, as some raw material prices soared by over 100 per cent.

The year-end picture vindicates the group's high-risk policies over the year. Net debt has fallen £10m to nearly £18m; borrowings as a percentage of equity are down to 18.7 per cent; the capital expenditure programme is even being stepped up; and the group can afford to maintain the high dividend unchanged at 7p.

The sting in the tail, from the bears' point of view, is that the current year's interest bill will be shrunk by the year-end cash inflow from the synthetic chemicals sale. The board envisages firm demand throughout 1984. Brokers' estimates of a further £4m jump in the pretax figure to £21.6m may not be too excessive, leaving a target p/c of 12 at 122p relatively undemanding.

## Lucas

After last year's plunging pretax profits, Lucas Industries has made a modest improvement in its first half performance for 1983-84. But it is clear that there is still much to do. After redundancy and closure costs of nearly £11m, pretax profits managed to limp into the black, avoiding a repetition of the unpleasant loss this time last year. The company is now set to consolidate its progress further in the second half and produce an even stronger recovery on the back of improved trading conditions.

The British automotive equipment market still poses problems for Lucas. The aftermarket was disappointing, although now showing improvement, and commercial vehicle output in Britain fell by 10 per cent. Even a 20 per cent increase in British car production and a 15 per cent boost to tractor production could not stem losses in this division.

The link with Smiths Industries' automotive products division last year to provide a strengthened electronics and systems arm is still to take full shape. Although some improvements have been seen, the real impact of the merger will not be felt for at least another six months.

Lucas had had to rely on its overseas automotive subsidiaries. Industrial equipment companies and aerospace operations for its profits. Aerospace profits fell but should be revitalized by the Airbus project.

The second half will see another, smaller, chunk of redundancy and closure costs. By the end of the year the period of rationalization should be over for Lucas and it will be in a position to make some real progress in 1984-85. The wait-and-see attitude which Lucas encourages was reflected in the share price which stayed firm at 220p.

## Rush expected for Porsche flotation

Porsche, the German sports car maker, is expected to go public after 53 years as a family business.

The Stuttgart-based company announced yesterday that it was to increase its stock capital from DM50m (£12m) to DM70m (£16m) offering half the new total in non-voting shares.

Quotation on the Frankfurt Stock Exchange is not expected before the end of April, but the rush to acquire a share in one of Germany's most prestigious

enterprises is expected to be almost as breath-taking as the distinctive-shaped cars' own performance.

The announcement came, ironically, on the same day as Porsche's challenge to the motor-racing world where it has made its name. The company said it would not compete in this year's Le Mans race in protest against the change in regulations. The International Sports Car

Federation in Paris is to allow cars with a higher petrol consumption to take part this year, which Porsche says will put it at a disadvantage against stronger fuel-consuming cars.

WAGON FINANCE: Chairman told annual meeting that, basically, new business is running at a satisfactory level for first quarter of 1984. New Budget was favourable to company.

## The Finance Bill

## Relief stays for old life policies - on strict terms

By Graham Seear, Financial Editor

Fears that life assurance policies might lose further tax benefits as a result of changes slipped into the Finance Bill were still with the Bill's publication yesterday.

Apart from changing the basis of offshore policies, as laid out last November, the Bill concentrates on the removal of 15 per cent income tax relief on insurance premiums.

However, the abolition of relief, which is aimed at policies taken out after March 13, is so tightly drawn that it will affect many people who took out flexible policies before that date, some indeed as a result of pre-Budget leaks on the abolition of premium relief.

Policies taken out before March 13 will lose all their

premium relief if the policy is varied after that date, either to increase the benefits (and hence the premiums) or to extend the term. The same applies if a policy carries options to convert or change its terms. If such options are taken up, premium relief will disappear.

Even policies that lose their premium relief will, however, continue to qualify for relief from income tax above the basic rate on death, surrender or maturity.

This means that holders of life assurance policies will need to be extremely careful about making any changes to them, and will probably be well-advised to maintain any existing policies in their present form.

Mr Marshall Field, chairman of the Life Offices Association, said yesterday that it was important that the effect of changes in life assurance policies should be clarified.

"There clearly has to be some sort of control", he said, but urged that the loss of premium relief on existing policies should be restricted to discretionary changes made by the policyholder. He thought it ought not to affect changes which were already built into policy contracts which, for instance, carry lower premiums in the early years with a pre-arranged build-up later.

The association has sent out a letter in the hope of building up opposition to the abolition of premium relief.

## Rules for share options

Significant expansion of executive share options is expected after Budget changes which are amplified in the Finance Bill. Option schemes approved by the Inland Revenue after April 5 will not be liable to income tax. Instead, the proceeds will be liable to capital gains tax on the difference between the full cost of the option and the net disposal value of the shares obtained after the option is exercised.

Under capital gains tax rules, tax will only be liable when the shares received are sold and therefore not necessarily when the option is exercised. Furthermore, indexation under gains tax rules will remove increases in the value of the shares under option up to the level of changes in the retail price index, from any tax liability.

It is unlikely that the Revenue will be able to approve any of the new schemes before August when the Finance Bill is expected to receive the Royal Assent.

The main conditions for approval by the Revenue will be that:

a) The limit for options granted will be the higher of £100,000 or four times the employee's annual pay.

b) The option price of the shares must not be at a "manifest discount on their market value at that time."

c) Options can only be exercised between five and ten years after they are granted.

d) The scheme must be restricted to full time directors or employees except in cases of death or leaving employment.

As foreshadowed, the limit for monthly contributions to savings related employee share

option schemes is raised from £50 to £100 (with a minimum of £10).

Those exercising options under unapproved schemes granted, though not necessarily exercised, before April 5, can now spread the income tax liability on exercising the option over five years instead of three.

The Finance Bill confirms a curious anomaly thrown up by the abolition of the investment income surcharge announced in the Budget. The accountants Spicer and Peggler believe that the trustees of discretionary trusts will still be liable to pay the 15 per cent surcharge, although when the trust makes an income distribution after April 5, the beneficiary can claim back the surcharge from the Inland Revenue.

## Commonwealth of Australia

Twenty Year 5½% Bonds due May 1, 1985

To the Holders of the above-described Bonds:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to the provisions of the Bonds of the above-described issue, Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York, as Sinking Fund Agent, has drawn by lot for redemption on May 1, 1984, at 100% of the principal amount thereof through operation of the Sinking Fund, \$1,369,000 principal amount of said Bonds as follows:

OUTSTANDING COUPON BONDS OF \$1,000 BEARING THE DISTINCTIVE NUMBERS ENDING IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING TWO DIGITS:

COUPON BONDS BEARING THE FOLLOWING NUMBERS:

ALSO THE FOLLOWING REGISTERED BONDS

The Bonds bearing the numbers above specified will be redeemed and paid on and after May 1, 1984, at the principal amount thereof, upon presentation and surrender of such Bonds at the option of the holder either (a) at the Corporate Trust Office of Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York, 30 West Broadway, New York, N.Y., or (b) subject to applicable laws and regulations, at the main offices of Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York in Antwerp, Brussels, Frankfurt (Main), London or Paris, or the Reserve Bank of Australia in London, or Amsterdam-Rotterdam Bank N.V. in The Netherlands or Banque Générale du Luxembourg S.A. in Luxembourg. Payments at the offices referred to in (b) above will be made by check drawn on a bank in New York City, or by a transfer to a United States dollar account maintained with a bank in New York City.

Coupons due November 1, 1984, and subsequent maturing coupons should be attached to coupon bonds being redeemed in the usual manner, presented for payment in the usual manner, from and after such redemption date no interest shall accrue upon or in respect of any such Bonds called for redemption as aforesaid.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

## NOTICE

The following Bonds previously called for redemption have not as yet been presented for payment:

2430 3321 3374 3377 5471 6072 7366 9247 10259 11078 12051 12650 13722 13948 24470 24474

3030 3323 3376 3378 5481 6078 9244 10260 10553 11040 12303 13731 17331 22268 24472

## WALL STREET

## Shares open higher

Prices opened higher on Wall Street in active early trading yesterday.

The Dow Jones average was down 1.88 to 1772.74 shortly after the market opened.

Advances led declines 565-339 among the 1,279 issues crossing the Stock Exchange tape.

Many analysts were surprised

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## COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

● **ABACO INVESTMENTS** (formerly Greencoat Properties): Half-year to Dec. 31, 1983. Turnover £787,000 (£1.22m). Loss for period £67,000, against loss of £64,000 last time. Board remains hopeful of an overall profit for full year.

● **RAMUS HOLDINGS** (quoted on U.S.M.): Half-year to Jan. 2, 1984. Turnover £10.89m (£8.7m). Pretax profit £256,000 (£241,000).

● **K. C. A. DRILLING GROUP**: Results for 1983. Turnover £38.93m (£39.11m). Pretax profit £6.71m (£7.01m). Total dividend 3p (3.75p) a share.

● **MACFARLANE GROUP** (LANSMAN): Results for 1983. Turnover £34.1m (£31.81m). Pretax profit £2.32m (£2.15m). Total dividend raised from an adjusted 3.52p to 3.87p a share.

● **MORAY FIRTH MALTINGS** (quoted on U.S.M.): Results for 1983. Turnover £31.77m (£26.22m). Pretax profit £1.97m (£1.48m). Total dividend 6p (2.8p) a share.

● **FAIRVIEW ESTATES**: Half-year to Dec. 31, 1983. Turnover £19.46m (£17.08m). Pretax profit £4.02m (£3.11m). Interim dividend 1.6p (1.46p). Board views future with continued confidence.

● **CASTLEFIELD (KLANG) RUBBER ESTATE**: Half-year to Dec. 31, 1983. Turnover £2.9m (£1.97m). Pretax profit £1.45m (£844,000).

● **W. TYZACK, SONS & TURNER**: Half-year to Jan. 28, 1984. Turnover £3.05m (£2.4m). Pretax profit £65,000, against a loss of £286,000. No interim payment (same).

● **SCOTTISH HERITABLE TRUST**: Results for 1983. Turnover £20.6m (£23.64). Pretax profit £1.1m (£338,000). Total dividend 2.1p (2p). Current market value of building land, properties and gravel reserves included in accounts as stock-in-trade, together with current value of listed investments, exceeds book value by over £3m.

● **ARLAN ELECTRICAL** has changed its accounting date from June 30 to March 31, resulting in a nine-month transitional accounting period. July 1, 1983 to March 31, 1984. Accounts expected to be despatched in or about July 1984.

Frances Williams talks to six signatories to a 1981 attack on government policies

## The economic mirage – by 'rebel' professors



From left: Professors James Meade, Marcus Miller, Robert Neild, Sir Bryan Hopkin and Wynne Godley

Three years ago today 364 university economists, the bulk of the academic profession, put their names to a highly critical statement on the Government's economic policies. These policies would lead not to recovery but to a deepening of the slump, they argued.

The round robin was initiated by the Cambridge University professors Frank Hahn and Robert Neild, who had been profoundly shocked by the severity of Sir Geoffrey Howe's Budget earlier in the month, at a time of rising unemployment.

Today ministers claim that far from exacerbating recession, the 1981 Budget marked the turning point for recovery. By renewing the struggle against inflation and paving the way for

interest rates to fall, the Budget laid the foundations for sustained growth, they have said.

This explanation of events is not shared, however, by six signatories of the original statement contacted this week by *The Times*.

Professor Michael Artis, Manchester University, formerly editor of the *National Institute Economic Review* and an expert on monetary policy.

The policies that provoked the statement have essentially been eschewed since 1981. Fiscal policy relaxed a bit and, most importantly, the Government took more notice of the exchange rate.

In addition, world conditions have improved with the American recovery and, of course, the destocking associated with the drastic drop in output in 1981 was bound to come to an end.

The growth we are experiencing is not enough to have much impact on unemployment, and it is not clear whether even this rate of growth will be sustained.

But the reduction in inflation that has occurred has been bought at a smaller price so far (in terms of unemployment) than I would have expected in 1981, even though the price has been very heavy.

One reason may be that the severe recession has produced the widespread belief that full employment has gone, if not for ever then for a long time. This is bound to affect the attitudes of trade unions and employers.

Professor Wynne Godley, Cambridge University, director of the Department of Applied Economics. A former senior Treasury economist.

The recovery has been the result of a consumer credit spurge supported by moderate real fiscal expansion by the Government. The credit boom itself has been chiefly due to the easing of hire-purchase controls and the easy availability of mortgages. I expect the credit boom to collapse after this summer (two years on from the abolition of controls) and remove a major agent of expansion in the economy.

The following statement issued on March 30, 1981, was signed by 364 university economists, including 76 present or past professors and the majority of post-war government chief economic advisers:

*'We, who are all present or retired members of the economics staffs of British universities, are convinced that:*

*a) There is no basis in economic theory or supporting evidence for the Government's belief that by deflating demand they will bring inflation permanently under control and thereby induce an automatic recovery in output and employment;*

*b) Present policies will deepen the depression,*

*erode the industrial base of our economy and threaten its social and political stability;*

*c) There are alternative policies; and*

*d) the time has come to reject monetarist policies and consider urgently which alternative offers the best hope of sustained economic recovery.'*

The effect of government policies on inflation has admittedly been bigger than I thought it would be. But, on the other hand, I never believed that the Government really would tolerate this level of unemployment. I was wrong on the political judgment – that people would stand for it.

Professor Sir Bryan Hopkin, chief economic adviser to the Government from 1974 to 1977 and recently retired as Professor of Economics at University College Cardiff.

The statement that present policies would deepen the depression was putting it too strongly. But I stand by the central theme that there is nothing to show that the inflation cure will last any longer than recession itself. If the economy did expand substantially I would expect the inflation problem to return.

The recovery has been mostly a turnaround in stocks from heavy destocking and consumer-led demand. I would not

have expected demand and production to go on falling in 1981, but I did not see how we could have the sort of recovery needed to produce a big fall in unemployment – and I still don't.

I always thought that the Government could get inflation down if it was prepared to create a lot of unemployment and stick to it. The main surprise was not so much the economics as the politics of what happened.

I could not have expected the Government to stand by and let unemployment go to three million – with the pressure from its own backbenchers and elsewhere – and then be so kindly treated by the electorate. Unemployment did not have the disastrous political effect I expected.

Professor James Meade, Nobel prizewinner and a former chief economic adviser to the Government.

I never held the view that

there would never be any recovery, only that the policies would be carried out at immense cost.

I don't think there is any reason to be confident that the reduction in inflation is permanent.

When we said that policies would deepen the depression, perhaps we should have said they would sustain the rise in unemployment. Those who point to the recovery now should wait a little to see if it is sustained.

I never believed that alternatives would be easy, only that they should be tried in order to avoid the immense costs of government policies.

I remain of the view I held in 1981 – that the Government would not induce a recovery by its policies. It was a possible argument for the Government to say that the alternative – restraining wages – was difficult, but not for the Government to say that their policies would induce automatic recovery.

Professor Marcus Miller, Warwick University, a specialist in macro-economic policy and a member of the Treasury's academic panel

I don't believe there has been a recovery. The economy is growing but the level of gross domestic product remains far below its pre-recession trend path. Real wages have proved more resistant to depression than I imagined they would be in 1981. That has made me more cautious about a big expansion. I don't know how far the economy can recover without more inflation.

The fall in inflation, which was surprisingly swift, has only helped the recovery because government policies are designed that way. If spending plans are made in cash, lower inflation means more real spending. And the fall in inflation and the revival of demand hasn't cut unemployment.

Professor Robert Neild, University of Cambridge and co-sponsor of the statement in 1981

The main point of the 364 was that there was no reason to believe that restrictive fiscal and monetary policies that reduced inflation would induce recovery. The evidence has borne us out. Since we made the statement in March 1981, employment has fallen by about 2 million.

I see no reason to modify my view about how the economy works. The levelling-out in activity has been in large part induced by the government relaxation of controls on consumer credit. That's exactly what happened in earlier post-war stop-go cycles. The American recovery, induced by a budget deficit, has helped us too.

I suspect that if you disentangle the figures the Chancellor's Budget is expansionary. Altogether the Government seems to me to be covert Keynesians still pretending to be half-hearted monetarists while using Keynesian methods to check the recession.

## Croda 1983 results

	1983 £000	1982 £000
Unaudited		
Turnover	341,128	307,102
Profit before taxation	17,574	15,039
Profit after taxation	9,861	8,432
Extraordinary items less taxation	2,330	1,218
Attributable profit	7,530	7,148
Ordinary dividends (net)	pence	pence
Proposed final dividend (payable 2 July 1984)	4.00	4.00
Making total for the year	7.00	7.00

Copies of Report and Accounts available on and after 28 April 1984 from the Secretary



Croda International Plc  
Covick Hall Snaith Goole  
North Humberside DN14 9AA

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## FOOTBALL: MILK CUP THAT MADE THOUSANDS FEEL GOOD

## The game that generated a spirit that one had almost forgotten

Wolves, Charlton, Derby - now Middlebrough... the reaper seems to be hovering ominously at the door of some of our most glorious yesterdays, as an economic wind creeps through to the bones of our nation sport.

Mullen and Hancock, Bartram and Duffy, Doherty and Stamps, the estimable Mannion whose body served as a graceful as a daffodil swaying in the wind: it is inevitable that the historic clubs of famous players and of a treasured past will decay and die like many of our provincial theatres, killed by television.

These are difficult times for football, but occasionally something happens which makes you realize once more that the game is still there in the souls of tens of thousands of people: that supporting the local club can engage a deeper sense of belonging and affection than any man ever had joining a club in the Mall. It happened on Wednesday night.

Walking into Maine Road, Manchester, for the Milk Cup Final replay, there was an awareness of Everton and of their supporters, of an identity which was stronger even than that of confident, expectant multi-champions Liverpool. And they yelled loud enough, in a strange but unmistakable way, because Everton's players are nowhere near as successful and celebrated as Liverpool's, while the Anfield followers were cheering specifically for their team, those from Goodison were cheering for a club, the loyalty to that club carried a passion which spread infectiousness to the point where there could be no doubt who was showing the greater pride on the night.

It might seem trivial to dwell on this experience, common enough over the years, but I think we too easily lose sight of how valuable our clubs have been within the working community for more than a century, and how much poorer we would be without them. Television has not only cheapened football, but by concentrating on the skills of a handful of better teams and making this available to everybody, thereby ensuring the rest seem inferior, but has

## Sports Commentary



David Miller

weaned people away from their identity and roots. Can anyone find identity watching the telly silver image of Parky or Hartley, or even looking at football through TV's window?

I felt good on Wednesday night after listening to Everton's followers the way I feel good after listening to the Welsh at Cardiff Arms Park, or to the Brazilian supporters who can make a single match last a whole day beforehand and a whole night afterwards; or to

Sponsorship goes on  
Sponsorship of the Milk Cup tournament is guaranteed until the end of 1986 and reports that a £2m deal is about to collapse can be discounted. Graham Kelly, the Football League secretary, said yesterday.

Manchester United's against Barcelona last week.

There was generosity, optimism, humour and loyalty, and with no ill-will to Joe Fagan's team it made you pray for a lucky blue streak.

Howard Kendall, who has done so well to revive Goodison fortunes, and may yet take them to a second Cup Final with the help of Andy Gray against Southampton, had wisely said before the first game at Wembley that you do not win a Cup because you are due it, only because you deserve it. On Wednesday, by the finish.

Everton did not deserve it: the class was unmistakably Liverpool's, with Souzenes commanding the middle and Dalgleish stroking his passes like Steve Davis setting-up the cue ball behind the back.

Of course, football has weakened because of alternative leisure, television, and the parasitic greed of top players. Yet it is also weaker because the government refuses to hand back some of the enormous taxes which it takes from the pools. It would, perhaps, be politically shrewd in time of mass unemployment for Mr Lawson, the Chancellor, to return something in order to help the people's game survive.

The sense of belonging with a club is stronger than even the wish to be entertained. No matter how much the players are being paid, the supporter considers that he and the incompetent winger are equivalent. The supporter who can make a single match last a whole day beforehand and a whole night afterwards; or to

There was a lack of rancour on the terraces which was a reminder of former times. Neal was having a bit of a roughhouse on the pitch with Heath, which was causing friendly disagreement behind me. "Of course, that Neal, he's getting old and he can't take it," the Scar said patronisingly. "Not at all," replied Red Scar. "Young Heath's got as fine a pair of elbows as this referee's ever see."

The match was a bond, not a friction. It also revealed that basic attitude to football which 20 years of Liverpool's continental class passing have not eliminated. "Hey, get on, up the field, yer won't score goals back there," Red Scar shouted a dozen times as Hansen and Larsson square-passed.

Kevin Sheedy of Everton has been ruled out for the rest of the season. Sheedy suffered an ankle injury in Sunday's Milk Cup final.

## Charlton in new move to manager

By John Dougray

The wheel turned full circle at Ayrone Park yesterday when Middlebrough confirmed that Jack Charlton, their former manager who led the club to promotion to the first division in 1974 and then left them in 1977 to join Sheffield Wednesday, returns today as manager for an indefinite period.

Only 24 hours after dismissing Malcolm Allison, Mr Mike McCullagh, confirmed that Charlton had agreed to take over the reins again. "Jack and I are good friends, I told him that we were in trouble and that we needed him to sort things out. His immediate reaction was that he had a million things to do, but then he said he would be delighted to come back," Mr McCullagh said last night. "He has a great affection for this club and its supporters. He has a lot of happy memories of Middlebrough."

In Charlton's first season at Ayrone Park, 1973-74, Middlebrough won the second division championship by the record margin of 15 points. After he left, Charlton often told friends that he regretted going when he did and not seeing the job through because there was the basis of a fine team.

He returned to Middlebrough at the end of last season. Since then, he has devoted himself mainly to making a television series on hunting and fishing. The programme, which will be shown on an angry reaction from the anti-bloodsport lobby.

However, Big Jack can be sure of a warm welcome from the Middlebrough directors today, even although the chairman will be in London for urgent talks with bankers to whom he is presenting a financial package to help rescue the club from its financial position.

Mr McCullagh told *The Times* last night: "Jack Charlton is the one man who has come away from this club with a lot of success. His record speaks for itself. He is a man people listen to and respect."

Referring to the decision to sack Allison, Mr McCullagh said: "What Malcolm was saying was crazy. He had been practically every incoherent that came into the club. He knew just how bad the situation was. And yet he would not agree to players being sold. I told him, 'Malcolm, you can make a stand on this, it is your own career.' He said, 'I will walk out, I will go home, and I will take a lot of people with me. I am very sad that he took such a silly, irremediable attitude.'"

The chairman is confident that Middlebrough can be saved. But he is aware that the present Middlebrough board do not convince their creditors that they can turn the club's fortunes round, then another group of businessmen on Teesside might be prepared to take it over. Today's proposals to the club's bankers are believed to include selling the player's hotel and the training ground.

Charlton: welcome assured

## Sentence bites the bitter back

By Keith Macklin

It is rare for the chairman of the disciplinary committee to issue a statement explaining a sentence, but yesterday Jack Grindrod felt the need to emphasise the seriousness with which the Rugby League views biting.

Des Drummond, the Leigh and Great Britain winger, was suspended for five games, two for retaliation and three for biting an opponent in Leigh's game against Salford on March 4. Mr Grindrod commented: "Rugby League is a tough game, but there is no place in it for biting. The three-match suspension emphasises the severity of the offence and should act as a warning to other players." Leigh are appealing against the sentence.

Fulham, in desperate relegation trouble, have to play their next two matches without Tony Gourley, their captain who was suspended for stamping during the game against Wigan. The committee was in tough mood yesterday and four-match suspensions were handed out to Alan Hodgkinson, the Barrow captain, David Noble of Doncaster, Neil Goodwin of Bramley and Alan Bishop of Hutton. George Standish of Rochdale was suspended for six games. Bob Mordell, the Kent Invicta player-manager, for three.

Wigan finished with only 11 men as they were trounced 38-10 at Castleford in the first division on Wednesday evening. Gary Stephens was sent off for punching, then Wigan lost Courtney (dislocated shoulder) and Case (ankle injury).

## Postponed game upsets Fulham

Featherstone Rovers have called off their relegation showdown against Fulham tonight, but the opposition are still threatening to turn up for the match. Fulham need to win to have a chance of finishing above Featherstone and stay in the first division.

The Fulham player coach, Reg Bowden, said: "Featherstone contacted me on Tuesday, telling me the match was off because it is no longer being televised. But that is a load of rubbish. They have injury problems and do not want to play with a weakened side."

Featherstone are due to visit Wigan on Sunday, and Bowden said: "They are worried in case we win, but my players have taken the day off work. I have booked a coach and optimistically a luncheon training session. Their reasons for postponing the game aren't justified and I went to Whitehaven recently with three amateurs in our injury-hit lineup. We will turn up tomorrow and claim the points."

## GOLF

## Mahaffey defeats elements

From Mitchell Platt, Poole, Dorset

John Mahaffey played the finest golf of his life to take the early lead in the Tournament Players Championship with a three-under-par first round of 69 on the Players Course at Sawgrass last night.

Winds gusted up to 45 mph provided the course with extra protection. At 133 yards, the seventeenth is the shortest hole but it is nevertheless one where the champion could be on or off. The island green is surrounded by water, and club selection is of paramount importance. It is then that the golfer can be betrayed by a swirling wind.

"My ball was wet from the moment I struck it," he said. In fact he missed the green, with a "knocked-out" six iron way to the right, and he finished with a five. Since he had begun from the tenth that disaster, cranking the two birds that he had carried collected, took him to the turn in level par.

That score, however, was a sufficient foundation on which to build and he made three birdies in his next six holes to force ahead.

## FOOTBALL

INDIANAPOLIS: United States Winter Championships. Men: 100m freestyle 1, R. Gansel, 50.56; 200m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 2:02.28; 400m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 4:50.28; 800m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 10:07.27; 1,500m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 16:50.27; 2,000m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 22:58.24; 2,500m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 29:07.27; 3,000m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 35:10.27; 3,500m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 41:13.27; 4,000m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 47:16.27; 4,500m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 53:19.27; 5,000m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 59:22.27; 5,500m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 65:25.27; 6,000m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 71:28.27; 6,500m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 77:31.27; 7,000m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 83:34.27; 7,500m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 89:37.27; 8,000m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 95:40.27; 8,500m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 101:43.27; 9,000m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 107:46.27; 9,500m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 113:49.27; 10,000m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 119:52.27; 10,500m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 125:55.27; 11,000m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 131:58.27; 11,500m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 137:61.27; 12,000m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 143:64.27; 12,500m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 149:67.27; 13,000m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 155:70.27; 13,500m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 161:73.27; 14,000m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 167:76.27; 14,500m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 173:79.27; 15,000m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 179:82.27; 15,500m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 185:85.27; 16,000m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 191:88.27; 16,500m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 197:91.27; 17,000m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 203:94.27; 17,500m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 209:97.27; 18,000m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 215:100.27; 18,500m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 221:03.27; 19,000m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 227:06.27; 19,500m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 233:09.27; 20,000m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 239:12.27; 20,500m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 245:15.27; 21,000m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 251:18.27; 21,500m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 257:21.27; 22,000m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 263:24.27; 22,500m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 269:27.27; 23,000m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 275:30.27; 23,500m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 281:33.27; 24,000m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 287:36.27; 24,500m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 293:39.27; 25,000m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 299:42.27; 25,500m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 305:45.27; 26,000m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 311:48.27; 26,500m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 317:51.27; 27,000m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 323:54.27; 27,500m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 329:57.27; 28,000m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 335:60.27; 28,500m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 341:63.27; 29,000m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 347:66.27; 29,500m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 353:69.27; 30,000m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 359:72.27; 30,500m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 365:75.27; 31,000m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 371:78.27; 31,500m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 377:81.27; 32,000m freestyle 1, J. 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Vassallo, 515:50.27; 43,500m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 521:53.27; 44,000m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 527:56.27; 44,500m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 533:59.27; 45,000m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 539:62.27; 45,500m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 545:65.27; 46,000m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 551:68.27; 46,500m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 557:71.27; 47,000m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 563:74.27; 47,500m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 569:77.27; 48,000m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 575:80.27; 48,500m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 581:83.27; 49,000m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 587:86.27; 49,500m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 593:89.27; 50,000m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 599:92.27; 50,500m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 605:95.27; 51,000m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 611:98.27; 51,500m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 617:01.27; 52,000m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 623:04.27; 52,500m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 629:07.27; 53,000m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 635:10.27; 53,500m freestyle 1, J. Vassallo, 641:13.27; 54,000m freestyle 1, J. 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# Constable's power of arrest

Mohammed v Duke

Before Lord Diplock, Lord Keith of Kinkaid, Lord Bridge of Harwich, Lord Brandon of Oakbrook and Lord Brightman.

[Speeches delivered March 29]

A constable, in exercising his discretion under section 2(4) of the Criminal Law Act 1967 whether or not to arrest a person whom he had reasonable cause to suspect of having committed an arrestable offence, was entitled to take into consideration as a relevant matter the fact that the suspect would be more likely to tell the truth if he were detained for questioning at a police station than if he were questioned at his own home.

The House of Lords so held, dismissing an appeal by Mrs Margaret Holgate Mohammed from a decision on July 13, 1983 of the Court of Appeal (Sir John Arnold, President and Mr Justice Taylor, 3 WLR 598) who allowed an appeal by John Duke, Chief Constable of Hampshire, from a decision dated December 20, 1982 by Judge Hampden Inskip, QC, sitting at Portsmouth County Court who awarded the plaintiff £1,000 damages for wrongful arrest and detention.

Mr Alan Tyrrell, QC, and Mr Robin Belben for the plaintiff, Mr J. B. Morinier, QC, and Mr Robert Beccoff for the defendant.

LORD DIPLOCK said that the appeal was in a civil action for false imprisonment brought by the plaintiff against the chief constable and arising out of her arrest without warrant at her home on May 8, 1980 by an officer of the Hampshire Constabulary, Detective Constable Offin, and her subsequent detention at Southsea Police Station for about six hours after which time she was released on police bail under section 38(2) of the Magistrates Courts Act 1952 (now section 43(3) of the Magistrates Courts Act 1980). She was later informed by the police that she need not surrender to her bail as no further proceedings would be taken against her.

The House of Lords was not concerned with rights of arrest at common law for it was not disputed that an arrestable offence had been committed, and what Constable Offin was purporting to exercise was the statutory power of arrest without warrant conferred upon him by section 2(4) and (6) of the 1967 Act.

Section 2(4) conferred a right of entry on premises by a constable for the purpose of exercising the power of arrest conferred upon him by section 2(4) which provides: "Where a constable with reasonable cause suspects that an arrestable offence has been committed, he may arrest without warrant anyone whom he has reasonable cause to suspect to be guilty of the offence."

The word "arrest" in section 2 was a term of art. First, it was to be noted that arrest was a continuing act, it started with the arrestee taking a person into his custody, his action or words restraining him from moving anywhere beyond the arrestee's control, and it continued until the person so restrained was either released from custody, or having been detained before a magistrate, was remanded in custody by the magistrate's judicial act.

In practice, since the creation of organized police forces during the nineteenth century, an arrested person upon being taken into custody by a constable was brought into a police station and detained there until he was either brought before a magistrate or released, whether unconditionally or upon police bail.

In modern conditions any other way of dealing with an arrested person, once he had been taken into custody, would be impracticable, and section 43 of the 1980 Act, providing for grant of bail by the police, was drafted on the assumption that that was what would be done.

Second, it was to be noted that the mere act of taking a person into custody did not constitute an "arrest" unless that person knew, either at the time when he was first taken into custody or as soon thereafter as it was reasonably practicable to inform him, upon what charge or on suspicion of what crime he was being arrested.

There was no suggestion that the plaintiff in the present case was not fully informed by him of the offence, burglary of jewelry at a house at which she was residing in December 1979, which he suspected her of having committed.

Very shortly after the burglary some of the jewelry had been sold to a jeweller in Portsmouth but it was not until the end of April 1980 that the victim of the burglary recognized her jewelry in the police. The jeweller's description of the jewelry was thought by the victim to resemble that of her former lodger, the plaintiff.

Section 2(4) of the 1967 Act made it a condition precedent to a constable's power lawfully to arrest a person without warrant, that he should have reasonable cause to suspect that person to be guilty of the arrestable offence in respect of which the arrest was made.

Whether he had reasonable cause was a question of fact for the court to determine. The county court judge who tried the action and heard and saw the witnesses held that Constable Offin did have that reasonable cause for suspecting the plaintiff to be guilty of burglary.

The Court of Appeal examined a transcript or note of the oral evidence and came to the same conclusion. So the condition precedent to Constable Offin's power to take the plaintiff into custody and the power of the other constables at the police station to detain her in custody were fulfilled, and since the wording of section 2(4) of the 1967 Act under "without warrant" that left him with an executive discretion whether to arrest her or not.

Since that was an executive discretion conferred by statute upon a public officer, the constable making the arrest, the lawfulness of the arrest in which he had exercised it in a particular case could not be questioned in any court of law except upon those principles laid down by Lord Greene, Master of the Rolls in *Associated Provincial Picture Houses Ltd v Wednesbury Corporation* ([1948] 1 KB 223).

cause of action at common law for damages for that species of trespass to the person known as false imprisonment.

Since the judge expressly found that Constable Offin in effecting the initial arrest acted in good faith, the first of the *Wednesbury* principles and the other two must be exercised in good faith was satisfied.

So his exercise of that power by arresting the plaintiff was lawful unless it could be shown to have been "unreasonable" under the *Wednesbury* principle which required that the exercise of the discretion must exclude the possibility of a reasonable man in the position of the constable acting reasonably in the circumstances.

In *Hussain v Chong Fook Kam* ([1970] AC 942, 948) Lord Devlin said that suspicion was a state of conjecture or surmise which was not admissible in a court of law. The starting point of an investigation of which the obtaining of *prima facie* proof was the end. When such proof had been obtained the police case was complete, it was ready for trial and passed on to its next stage, bringing the suspect before a magistrate's court upon a charge of criminal offence.

The other side of the same coin was when the investigation, although diligently pursued, failed to produce *prima facie* proof which must be in the form of evidence that was admissible in a court of law. When the police had reached the conclusion that *prima facie* proof of guilt was unlikely to be discovered by further inquiries it was their duty to release the arrested person from custody unconditionally.

In the present case if the plaintiff had in fact committed the offence of which she was suspected, the only kind of admissible evidence probative of her guilt would be likely to be procurable only by a confession obtained from the plaintiff herself.

Constable Offin thought that she would be more likely to confess, to what he had reasonable cause to believe to be the truth, if she were detained and taken for questioning to the police station. Thus the reason why he arrested her was that he held the honest opinion that the police inquiries were likely to be more fruitful in clearing up the case if the plaintiff were compelled to go to the police station to be questioned there.

The judge described the reason for the plaintiff's arrest as being "to subject her to the greater stress and pressure involved in arrest and deprivation of liberty in the belief that if she was going to confess she was more likely to do so in a state of arrest."

However, he went on to find that the questioning to which the plaintiff was subjected at the police station was conducted with complete propriety and that her solicitor who had been sent for at her request and was present for part of the time made no complaint of the arrest, the nature of the questioning or the length of time for which she was detained.

Thus applying *Wednesbury* principles, the question of law to be decided by their Lordships was whether it was a matter which Constable Offin should have concluded from his consideration as irrelevant to the exercise of his statutory power of arrest, that there was a greater likelihood (as he believed) that the plaintiff would respond truthfully to questions about her conduct with her knowledge of the burglary, if she were questioned under arrest at the police station, than if without arresting her, questions were put to her by Constable Offin at her own home.

Perceptibly order him to depart at any moment, since his right of entry under section 2(6) of the 1967 Act was dependent upon his intention to arrest her.

There was inevitably the potentiality of conflict between the public interest in preserving the liberty of the individual and the public interest in the detection of crime and the bringing to justice of offenders, and the question of law to be decided by their Lordships was whether it was a matter which Constable Offin should have concluded from his consideration as irrelevant to the exercise of his statutory power of arrest, that there was a greater likelihood (as he believed) that the plaintiff would respond truthfully to questions about her conduct with her knowledge of the burglary, if she were questioned under arrest at the police station, than if without arresting her, questions were put to her by Constable Offin at her own home.

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### 1981











## Today's television and radio programmes

Summaries by Peter Dear and Peter Davalle

## BBC 1

6.00 Cee-fax.  
6.30 Breakfast Time with Salina Scott and Mike Smith. News from Debbie Rix at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; sport at 6.40 and 7.40; regional news, weather and traffic at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; television preview at 8.55; a review of the morning papers at 7.15 and 8.15; gardening tips between 7.30 and 7.45; pop music news between 7.45 and 8.00; horoscopes at 8.30; cooking hints between 8.30 and 9.00.

9.00 Food and Drink. With Henry Kelly and Susan Grosman on a day trip to Dunkirk. (Shown yesterday) 9.30 Cee-fax. 10.30 Play School, presented by Chloe Ashcroft (r). 10.55 Cee-fax.

12.30 News After Noon with Richard Whitmore and Michael Cole. The weather prospects from Bill Gyles 12.57 Regional News (London and SE only). Financial report followed by news headlines with subtitles 1.00 Pebble Mill at One. Lesley Branness and Peter Seabrook put the finishing touches to the herb garden started last autumn 1.45 Seabrook (r).

2.00 In the Making. A profile of potter Tessa Fuchs at her studio in Kingston upon Thames where her designs mirror her love of the countryside (r) 2.20 Racing from the card of the second day of the Aintree Grand National Meeting - the Holiday Inn International Handicap Chase (2.35); and the Liverpool Hurdle (3.10). Coverage of the next two races continues on BBC 2.

3.30 Cartoons 3.45 regional news (non-London) 3.55 Magic Roundabout (r) 3.55 Play School, presented by Sheelagh Gilbey (r) 4.20 The New Adventures of Mighty Mouse (r) 4.25 Jackanory. Penelope Walton reads part five of Carabosse, by Barbara Sleigh 4.40 Playhouse: The Magic of Mendips, by Key McManus (r) 5.10 Captain Jack - Space Detective. In case four he is sent on holiday to the planet Sauria where there are a series of deadly experiments.

5.40 Sixty Minutes includes news read by Jan Leeming at 5.40. 6.40 Doctor Who. Colin Baker in the final part of The Twin Dilemma (Cee-fax titles page 170).

7.05 Film: The Satan Bug (1965) starring George Maharis, Dana Andrews, Richard Widmark and Anne Francis. Thriller based on the Alistair MacLean story about a flask, stolen from a top secret research installation in the California desert, containing a virus which, if exposed to air, could eventually lead to the destruction of the Earth. Directed by John Sturges.

9.00 News with John Humphrys. 9.25 Starkey and Hutch. The two policemen discover, when they report for duty, that they have been reported murdered (r).

10.35 Potter. Part three of the seven programme comedy series, written by Roy Clark, about an interfering retired busybody with time on his hands.

11.05 News headlines and weather. 11.10 Film: The Strange Love of Martha Ivers (1946) starring Barbara Stanwyck as the wealthy industrialist with a past which threatens to be made public when an old playmate returns to town. Kirk Douglas makes his film acting debut as Walter O'Neil. Directed by Lewis Milestone. Ends at 11.10.

## TV-am

6.25 Good Morning Britain with Anna Diamond and John Stapleton. News from Gordon Honeycombe at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; sport at 6.45; exercises at 6.50 and 8.15; the day's anniversaries at 7.05 and 8.05; a guest in the Spotlight at 7.20; cartoon at 7.25; guest of the day at 7.40; pop video at 7.55; Jemi Barnett's postbag at 8.10; television highlights at 8.35; Stub it Out at 8.40; consumer affairs at 9.03.

## ITV/LONDON

9.25 Thames news headlines 9.30 For Schools: taking care of the body 9.47 The coronation of Queen Elizabeth II 10.09 Emotional and social development in adolescence 10.26 How to describe things accurately 10.43 Ways of avoiding unemployment 11.05 War reporting 11.22 Music and magic 11.39 History in action: The summer of 1968.

12.00 Jamie and the Magic Torch find a treasure map (r) 12.10 Rainbow. Learning with puppets 12.30 Lifebeat. Asserting your own rights and needs.

1.00 News with Leonard Parikh 1.20 Thames news 1.30 About Britain. Kenneth Barton, director of Hampshire Museum Service, walks around some of the medieval castles of the Channel Islands.

2.00 Just Our Luck. 2.30 Falcon Crest. 3.30 Soins and Daughters.

4.00 Rainbow. A repeat of the programme shown at 12.10 4.20 World. 4.25 News. World. Rod Hull in another escapade with his erratic pet 4.50 The Fantastic Adventure of Mr. Rissel 5.15 The Young Doctors.

5.45 News 5.50 The 6 O'Clock Show presented by Michael Aspel.

7.00 The Zodiac Game. Astrology quiz with contestants asked and answered by celebrities Les Dennis, Belle Embery, Austin Goss and Suzi Quatro. The show is introduced by Tom O'Connor.

7.30 Hardcastle and McCormick. The old and the retired judge chase down to a Caribbean island in order to put paid to a gun-running business.

8.30 The Other 'Ar'. A big weekend in the lives of Lorraine and Charles when the first paying guests are due to stay at the stately home. Starring Lorraine Chase and John Standing (Oracle titles page 170).

9.00 Shroud for a Nightingale. Episode four (of five) and Inspector Dalglish with no facts to build on uses his instinct to trace the notorious surgeon, Stephen Courtney-Briggs into lying. But more valuable assistance comes from a most unlikely source (Oracle titles page 170).

10.00 News followed by Thames news headlines.

10.30 The London Programme. Today the Arts Council announces new spending cuts which will have an effect on the capital's cultural life. The Arts Council chairman Sir William Rees-Mogg is interviewed.

11.00 Bosom Buddies. 11.30 South of Watford. Ben Elton casts a wry eye over Londoners' lifestyles.

12.00 Bizarre. Comedy series starring John Byner. 12.30 Dragnet. Crime series starring Jack Webb, followed by Night Thoughts.



Tilly Vosburgh in Raspberry (BBC2, 10.00 pm)

● Past experience suggests that Raspberry (BBC 2, 10.00pm) will not appeal to Barbara Cardigan or comment itself to Mary Whitehouse. It is its preoccupation with the purely mechanical side of love-making that will distress the one, and its totally unbridled sex talk that will displease the other. There is, indeed, only one moment of tenderness in the whole of Tommy Marchant's play about two young women in a hospital ward - one of them is to have an operation to terminate a pregnancy, and the other an operation to make pregnancy possible - and that comes in the scene in which it emerges that, far from being posited, as we had been led to believe, at opposite ends of the gynaecological spectrum, they are linked by the common experience of casual sex. It is

## CHOICE

Inconceivable that Raspberry will be transmitted without a warning that it could upset some viewers and offend others. And it would be pointless to condemn it for its explicitness about biology as it would have been to condemn Thomas Eliot's play *Going* for its explicitness about the history of the world. The play is a masterpiece of understatement. It is a play about two young women in a hospital ward - one of them is to have an operation to terminate a pregnancy, and the other an operation to make pregnancy possible - and that comes in the scene in which it emerges that, far from being posited, as we had been led to believe, at opposite ends of the gynaecological spectrum, they are linked by the common experience of casual sex. It is

● THE LADYKILLERS (BBC 2, 5.40pm) has a sinister element in a which sets it apart from the mainstream of quintessential Ealing comedy, although that distinctive Ealing mixture of British eccentricity and charm

## Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing. Weather. 6.10 Farming Today. 6.25 Shipping. 6.30 Today, including 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 News, 6.45 Preview, 7.30 News. 7.00 John Smith. 7.25, 8.25 Sport. 7.45 Thought for the Day. 8.35 Yesterday in Parliament. 8.50 Your Letters. 9.57 Weather.

9.00 News. 9.05 Desert Island Choice: "Honest" Ed. 9.10 The Old Vic (r). 9.45 News. 9.50 Science Now. 10.30 Morning Story: "A Special" by Frank Tugby. 10.45 Daily Service. 11.00 News. 11.05 Traveller: Three Wise Guys. 11.10 News. 11.15 The World Tonight. 11.20 News. 11.25 Weather. 11.30 Week Ending. 11.35 Shipping. 11.40 News. 11.45 Your Letters. 11.50 News. 11.55 Traveller: Three Wise Guys. 12.00 News. 12.05 Traveller: Three Wise Guys. 12.10 News. 12.15 Weather. 12.20 News. 12.25 Shipping. 12.25 News. 12.30 Week Ending. 12.35 Shipping. 12.40 News. 12.45 Your Letters. 12.50 News. 12.55 Traveller: Three Wise Guys. 1.00 News. 1.05 Traveller: Three Wise Guys. 1.10 News. 1.15 The World Tonight. 1.20 News. 1.25 Weather. 1.30 Week Ending. 1.35 Shipping. 1.40 News. 1.45 Your Letters. 1.50 News. 1.55 Traveller: Three Wise Guys. 2.00 News. 2.05 Traveller: Three Wise Guys. 2.10 News. 2.15 Weather. 2.20 News. 2.25 Shipping. 2.25 News. 2.30 Week Ending. 2.35 Shipping. 2.40 News. 2.45 Your Letters. 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